



BATMAN

No. 138

AUG.

Ten Cents



Detective COMICS

A 52 PAGE MAGAZINE

The VANISHING
VILLAIN
DEFIES
BATMAN AND
ROBIN in

The
INVISIBLE
CRIMES!



GOT TO SEE THAT BIG, REFLECTING
FINDER THAT PREVIEWS YOUR PICTURE.

YOU'RE SURE YOUR
PICTURE'S RIGHT
BEFORE YOU SHOOT...

ME FOR THOSE BIG
KODACOLOR SNAPS.

MAKES 'EM
OUTDOORS IN
BRIGHT SUN...
INDOORS WITH
FLASH!

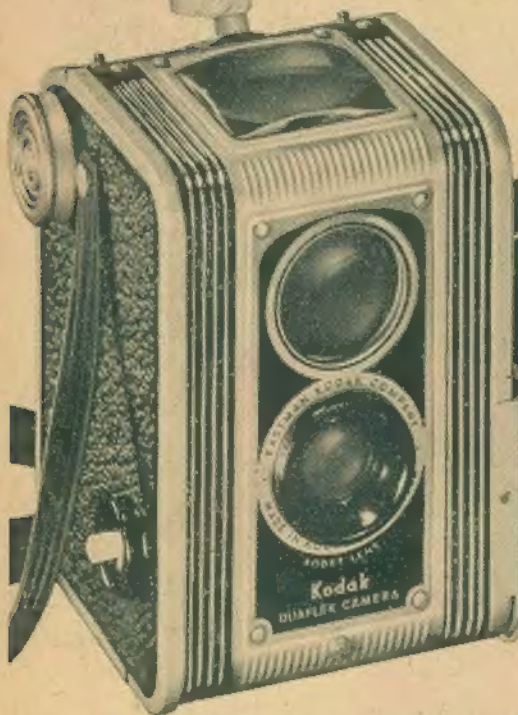
It's here...
and it's a reflex...the new
KODAK DUAFLEX CAMERA

AND IT'S PRICED
SO WE CAN
AFFORD IT!

12 BLACK-AND-WHITE,
OR 9 FULL-COLOR SNAPS
TO A ROLL!

ACCESSORY FLASHHOLDER
SLIPS ON QUICK FOR
INDOOR SNAPS.

BIG AS THE
ONES YOU GET
WITH HIGH-PRICED
REFLEX CAMERAS!



EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY
Rochester 4, N. Y.

"KODAK" IS A TRADE-MARK



Kodak

BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN

- THE BOY WONDER -

FOR AGES, MEN HAVE DREAMED OF FINDING A WAY TO BECOME INVISIBLE. BUT WHEN THE SOLVING OF AN ANCIENT MYSTERY YIELDS THE POWER OF INVISIBILITY, IT GIVES A SINISTER NEW WEAPON TO THAT CLOWN-PRINCE OF CRIME, THE JOKER! SO IT IS THAT THIS TIME BATMAN AND ROBIN CAN'T EVEN SEE THEIR CUNNING FOE, AS THEY STRUGGLE TO HALT THE JOKER'S WARPEDELY HUMOROUS CAMPAIGN OF-

"THE INVISIBLE CRIMES!"

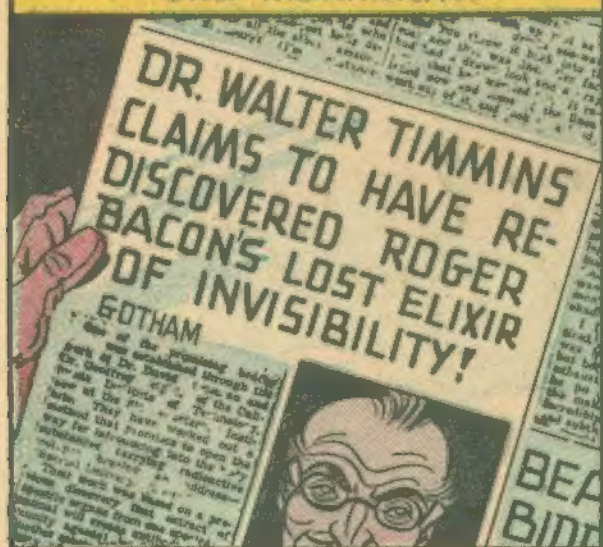


DETECTIVE COMICS, No. 138, August, 1948. Published monthly by National Comics Publications, Inc., 420 Lexington Ave., New York 17, N. Y. Whitney Ellsworth, Editor. Registered as second class matter at the Post Office at New York, N. Y. under the act of March 3, 1879. Yearly subscription in the U. S. \$1.50 including postage. Foreign, \$3.00 in American funds. For advertising rates address Richard A. Feldon & Co.,

205 E. 42nd St., New York 17, N. Y. Entire contents copyrighted 1948 by National Comics Publications, Inc. Except those who have authorized use of their names, the stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this periodical are entirely imaginary and fictitious and no identification with actual persons, living or dead, is intended or should be inferred.

Printed in U.S.A.

A SENSATIONAL NEWSPAPER STORY ROCKS GOTHAM CITY ONE MORNING...



THAT AFTERNOON, DR. TIMMINS RECEIVES A VISITOR IN HIS LABORATORY...

I'M PROFESSOR J.O. KERR, OF THE SCIENCE CLUB. I'VE BEEN SENT TO INVESTIGATE YOUR WILD CLAIM ABOUT THE INVISIBILITY ELIXIR?

BUT MY CLAIM *IS* TRUE! I'VE USED THE ELIXIR ON ANIMALS AND IT WORKS!

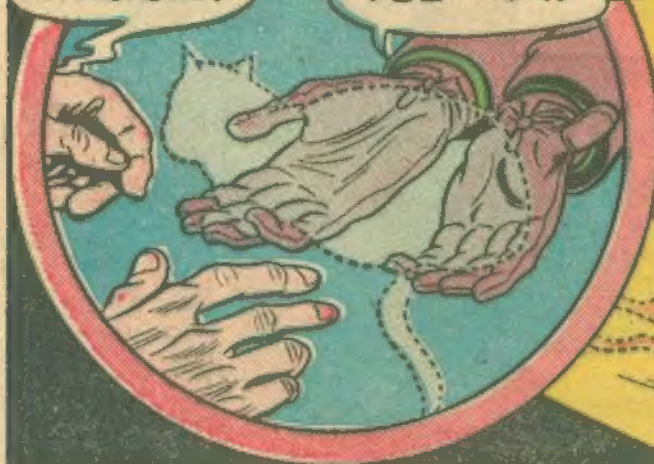


I JUST FED THIS CAT SOME OF THE ELIXIR AND IT MADE HER INVISIBLE?

WHY, IT'S TRUE! IT'S A REAL CAT—I CAN *FEEL* HER, BUT I CAN'T *SEE* HER?

WHAT HAPPENED?

IT'S MY INVISIBLE DOG—HE'S CHASING HER!



WOULD YOUR ELIXIR WORK ON HUMAN BEINGS THE SAME WAY?

YES! THAT'S WHY I'M GOING TO GUARD THE ELIXIR SO NO CRIMINAL CAN LEARN THE SECRET!



SUDDENLY...

WHY, PROFESSOR KERR—

J.O. KERR'S SPELLS *JOKER*, MY REAL NAME! TIE HIM UP, BOYS, AND WE'LL TAKE HIM ALONG WITH HIS ELIXIR!



LATER, IN THE JOKER'S HIDEOUT...

NO, TIMMINS SAYS THE EFFECT WEARS OFF AFTER A FEW DAYS! BUT THOSE FEW DAYS WILL MAKE US RICH!

I WOULDN'T DRINK THAT STUFF, JOKER! SUPPOSE IT MAKES YOU INVISIBLE FOREVER?

THE JOKER DRINKS! AND SWIFTLY, AN INCREDIBLE CHANGE TAKES PLACE!

LOOK, YOU CAN SEE THROUGH HIM!

AND HE'S FADING CLEAR OUT OF SIGHT!

AS THE ELIXIR PERMEATES THE CRIME CLOWN'S BODY, AN AMAZING TRANSFORMATION IS COMPLETED!

I CAN'T SEE HIM AT ALL ANY MORE!

HA, HA! I'M RIGHT HERE! AND NOW TO TRY OUT MY NEW POWER FOR A RICH HAUL!

SOON, IN A GOTHAM CITY BANK...

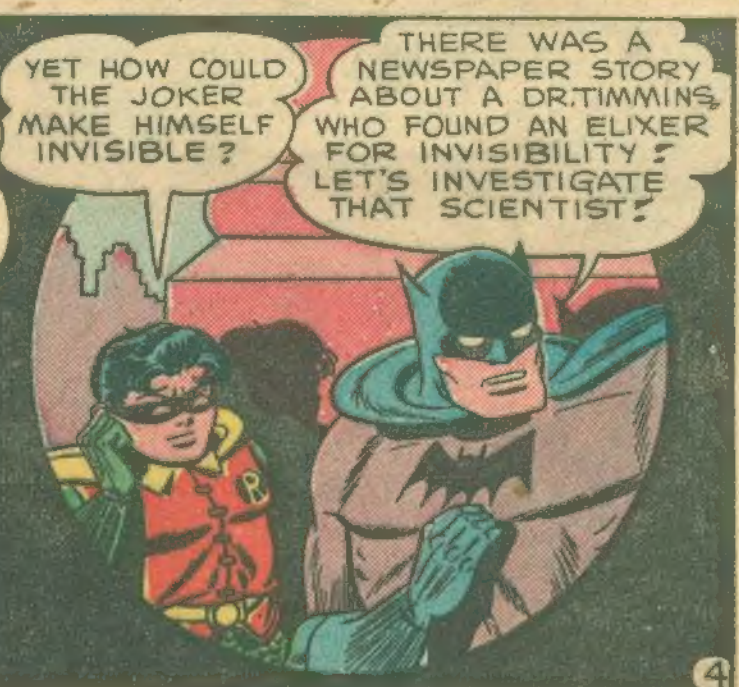
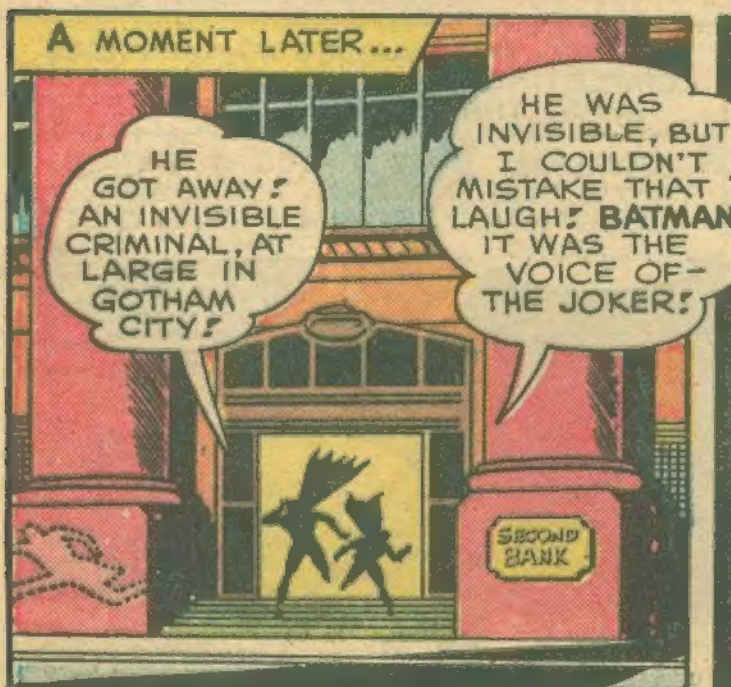
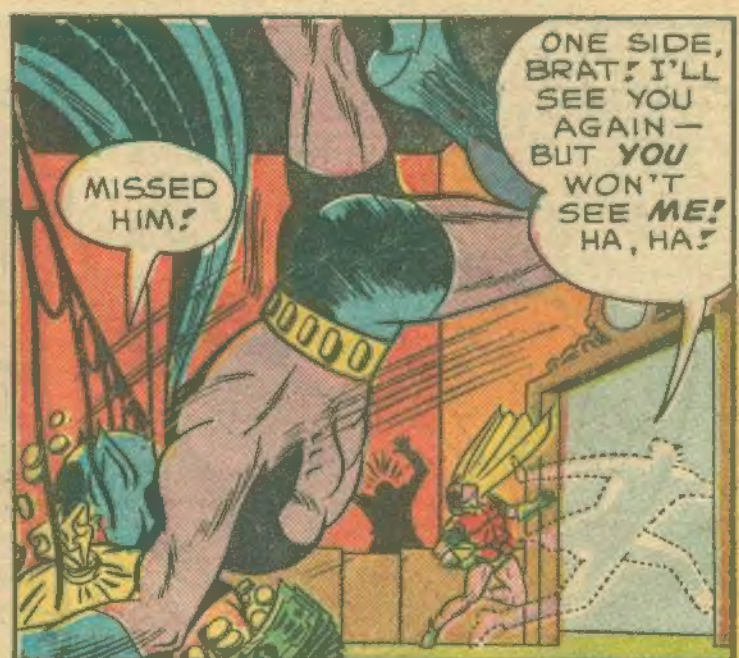
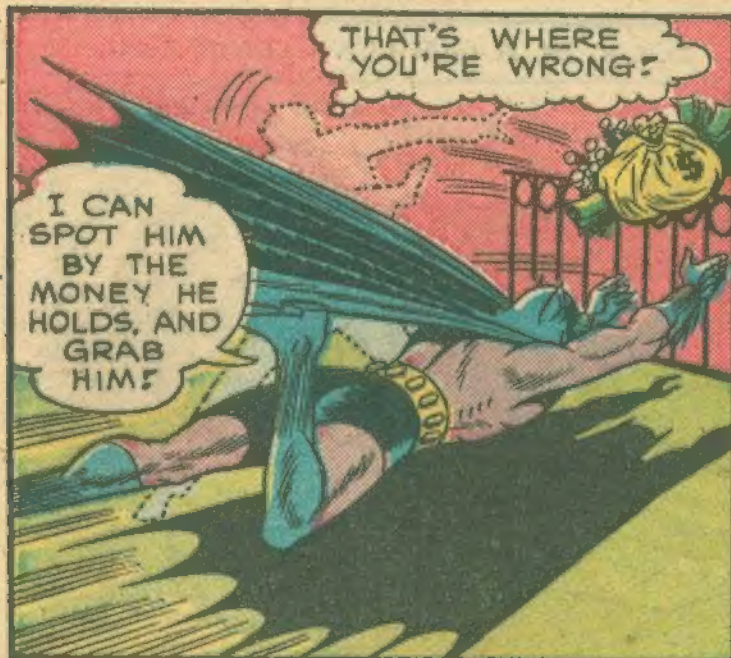
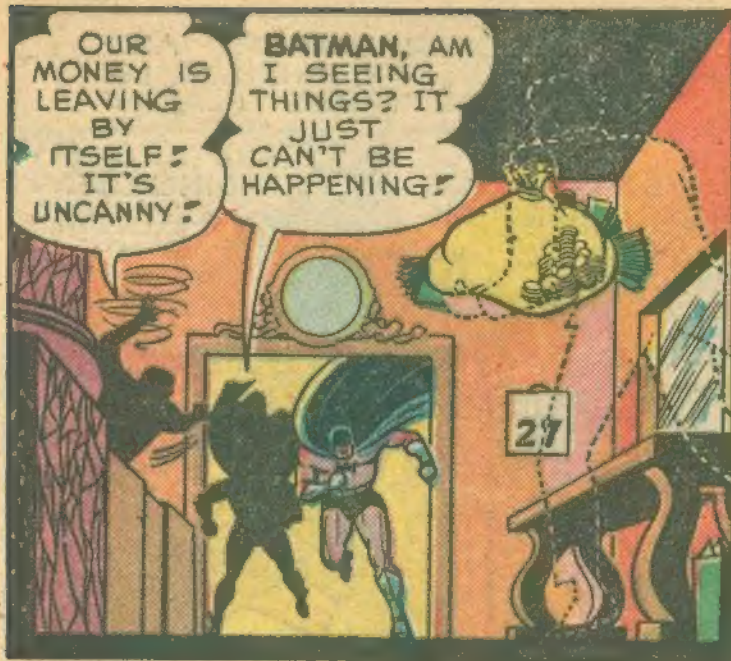
HA, HA! THIS IS LIKE TAKING CANDY FROM A BABY!

LOOK, MONEY WALKING OUT BY ITSELF! TURN ON THE ALARM!

NEARBY, TWO FAMOUS MANHUNTERS COMPLETING A ROUTINE PATROL HEAR THE OMINOUS SIGNAL!

BATMAN, THAT'S THE SECOND BANK ALARM!

I THOUGHT THINGS WERE TOO QUIET, ROBIN! LET'S GO!



MEANWHILE...

THEN YOU COULDN'T BRING ANY LOOT BACK?

NO! BATMAN AND THE POLICE CAN SPOT ANY LOOT I TAKE, EVEN THOUGH I'M INVISIBLE! BUT I'LL USE MY POWER OF INVISIBILITY TO GET RICH— BY BLACKMAIL!

SOON, THREE GOTHAM CITY MAGNATES RECEIVE WEIRD BLACKMAIL THREATS! THE FIRST, MONTY LAIRD, SPORTS PROMOTER...

"AN UNSEEN PHANTOM WILL SABOTAGE YOUR SPORTS— ENTERPRISES UNLESS YOU PAY WHAT I ASK!" HMM... IT'S JUST A CRAZY THREAT!

THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT, MR. LAIRD!

BUT THAT AFTERNOON...

HURRY UP, FOLKS— THE GAME IS STARTING!

AND I'M READY TO START STOPPING IT, SINCE LAIRD REFUSES TO PAY!

LAIRD BALL PARK

TICKETS

AN EASY CATCH... HUH... I TRIPPED!

HA, HA, HA!

AN UNSEEN PLAYER JOINS THE GAME TO TURN IT INTO A BEDLAM!

LOOK, THE BALL'S MAKING A HOME-RUN BY ITSELF!

I KNOW I SEE THIS, BUT I DON'T BELIEVE IT!



AND NOW A BAT HAS KNOCKED IT OVER THE FENCE? A RUN FOR US!

YOU'RE MAD! HOW CAN YOU COUNT A RUN WHEN THERE'S NO BATTER?



AS UPROARIOUS ARGUMENT BREAKS OUT, ACROSS GOTHAM CITY **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** HAVE MADE A DISCOVERY!

THE JOKER MUST HAVE ABDUCTED TIMMINS AND HIS ELIXIR! BUT HOW CAN WE FIND HIM?

BATMAN, THERE'S SOMEONE INVISIBLE IN HERE! I CAN HEAR SOUNDS!



WARILY SEARCHING THE ROOM...

IT'S AN INVISIBLE DOG!

THEY OVERLOOKED TIMMINS' DOG BECAUSE HE'S INVISIBLE! **ROBIN**, THE DOG CAN LEAD US TO HIS MASTER AND THE JOKER!

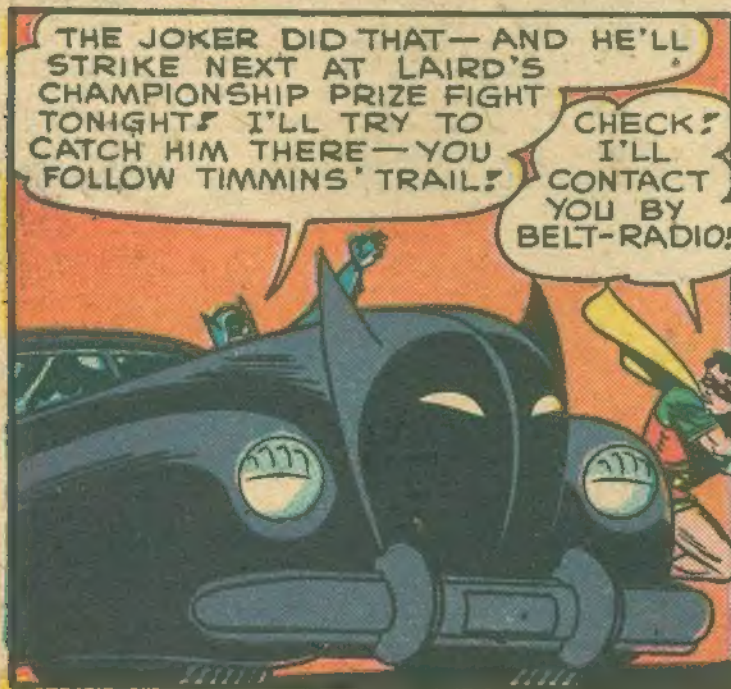


PRESENTLY...

THE DOG IS FOLLOWING HIS MASTER'S TRAIL!

WAIT—LISTEN!

— RIOT AT LAIRD BALL PARK WHEN AN INVISIBLE TRICKSTER WRECKED THE GAME! PROMOTER LAIRD SAYS HE IGNORED A BLACK-MAIL THREAT...



THE JOKER DID THAT— AND HE'LL STRIKE NEXT AT LAIRD'S CHAMPIONSHIP PRIZE FIGHT TONIGHT! I'LL TRY TO CATCH HIM THERE— YOU FOLLOW TIMMINS' TRAIL!

CHECK! I'LL CONTACT YOU BY BELT-RADIO!



WHICH WAY, BOY!

HE MUST BE CRAZY — HE THINKS HE'S GOT A DOG ON THAT LEASH!

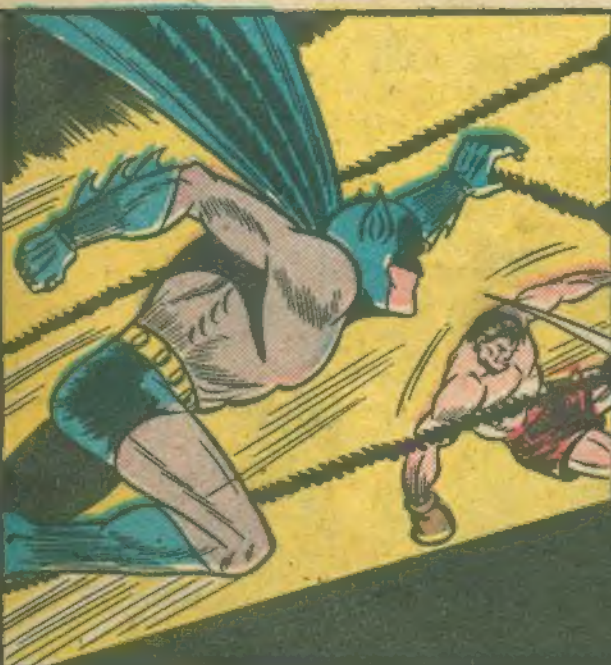
AT THE FIGHT, A FOURTH MAN ENTERS THE RING!

HA, HA!
I'LL MAKE THIS
A REAL BOUT BY
TAKING ON
BOTH
FIGHTERS!



SOMEBODY
SLUGGED ME
BUT I CAN'T
SEE HIM!

YOU PALOOKAS
ARE JUST OUT
OF YOUR CLASS!



I KNOW
YOU'RE THERE,
JOKER! WANT
TO TAKE ME
ON, TOO?

NO, THE
REFEREE COMES
NEXT!



THAT CONCLUDES THE
FIGHTS TONIGHT! IF
YOU PEOPLE DIDN'T
LIKE IT, YOU CAN
GET YOUR
MONEY BACK!
HA, HA!

MOMENTS LATER...
LAIRD AREN

HE SLIPPED
OUT OF THE
RING EASILY IN
THE CONFUSION!

I GOT MY
MONEY
BACK!
ME TOO!

AND HE RUINED
MY BALL-GAME AND
FIGHT, JUST AS HE
THREATENED TO
DO!



MEANWHILE, AN INVISIBLE DOG HAS LED ROBIN TO HIS CAPTIVE MASTER!

IT'S ONLY ROBIN! WE CAN TAKE CARE OF HIM!

BETTER JUST TAKE CARE—PERIOD!



HELP! SOMETHING I CAN'T SEE IS JUMPING AT ME!



SOON...

BATMAN, I'VE FOUND THE JOKER'S LAIR, AND DR. TIMMINS!



WAIT, AND WE'LL COME THERE AND SET A TRAP FOR THE JOKER!

THANKS FOR WARNING ME, BATMAN! I WON'T GO NEAR THE PLACE! HA, HA!



THE JOKER WAS RIGHT. BESIDE US LISTENING, AND WE COULDN'T SEE HIM!

NO USE SETTING A TRAP NOW, ROBIN! BRING DR. TIMMINS TO POLICE HEADQUARTERS!



AT HEADQUARTERS, THE SCIENTIST CONSULTS WITH THE TWO OTHER THREATENED MAGNATES, STACY AND MORSE!

WE CAN ONLY HOPE THAT THE JOKER'S INVISIBILITY EFFECT WEARS OFF SOON!

AND MEANWHILE, HE WILL SABOTAGE MY DEPARTMENT STORE UNLESS I PAY HIM!



HE CAN RUIN MY SHIPPING LINE, TOO! I HAVE A LINER SAILING TODAY AND HE CAN WRECK IT!

WE'LL BE READY FOR HIM WHEN HE COMES ABOARD! I'VE FIGURED A TRICK TO USE AGAINST AN INVISIBLE CRIMINAL!

LATER, AS PASSENGERS STREAM ABOARD THE MORSE LINE SHIP...

THE SWITCH UNDER THE GANGPLANK IS WORKING! EVERY TIME A PASSENGER STEPS ON IT, THE BULB LIGHTS!

KEEP WATCHING AND BE READY TO USE OUR EQUIPMENT!

MOMENTS LATER...

THE LIGHT'S FLASHING, BUT THERE'S NOBODY ON THE GANGPLANK!

THAT MEANS SOMEBODY INVISIBLE IS ON IT— THE JOKER! QUICK WITH THOSE SQUIRT-GUNS NOW!

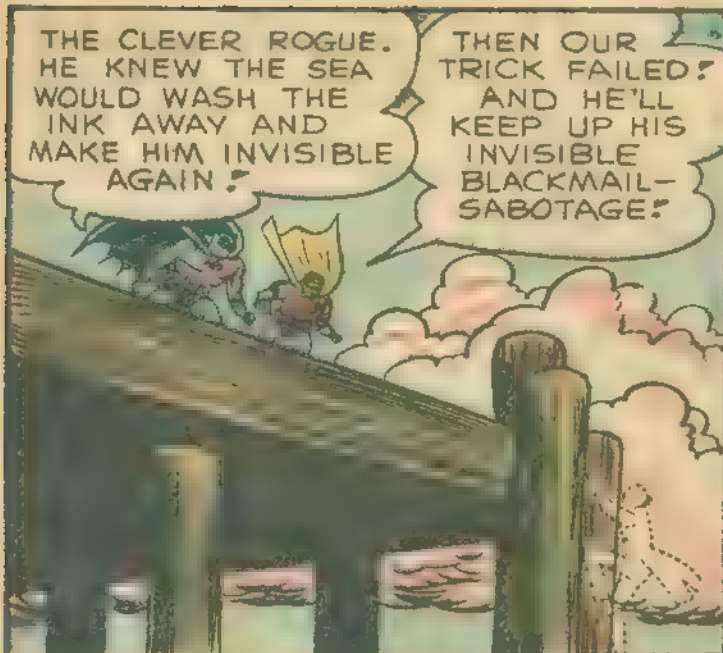
WHAT—WHAT IS THIS?

JUST INK TO MAKE YOU VISIBLE NOW THAT WE KNOW YOU'RE HERE!

NOW THAT WE CAN SEE HIM, GRAB HIM!

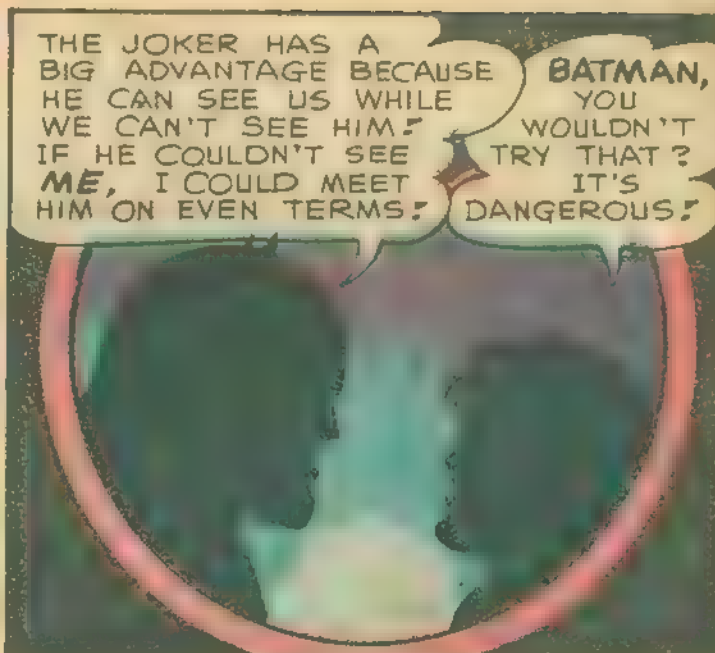
I WASN'T EXPECTING A TRICK LIKE THIS!

BUT I'VE A FEW TRICKS OF MY OWN! I'M THE JOKER— HA, HA!



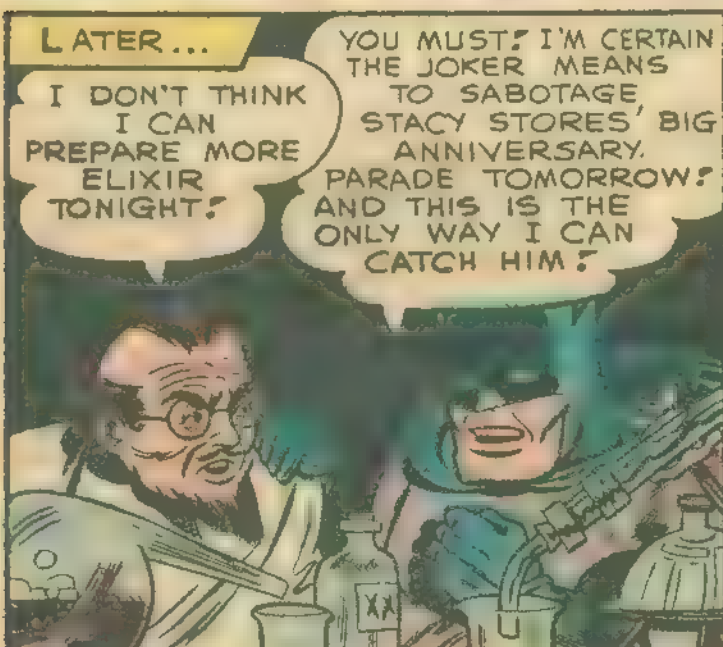
THE CLEVER ROGUE.
HE KNEW THE SEA
WOULD WASH THE
INK AWAY AND
MAKE HIM INVISIBLE
AGAIN!

THEN OUR
TRICK FAILED!
AND HE'LL
KEEP UP HIS
INVISIBLE
BLACKMAIL-
SABOTAGE!



THE JOKER HAS A
BIG ADVANTAGE BECAUSE
HE CAN SEE US WHILE
WE CAN'T SEE HIM!
IF HE COULDN'T SEE
ME, I COULD MEET
HIM ON EVEN TERMS!

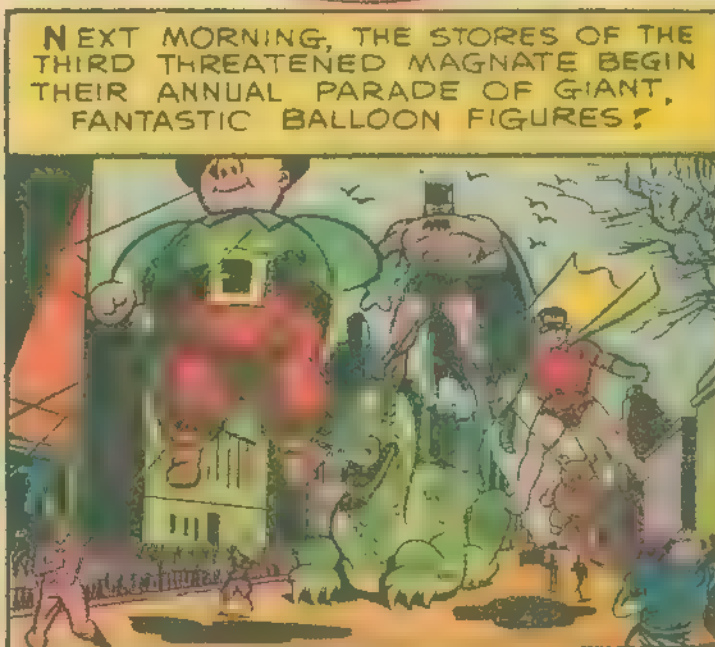
BATMAN,
YOU
WOULDN'T
TRY THAT?
IT'S
DANGEROUS!



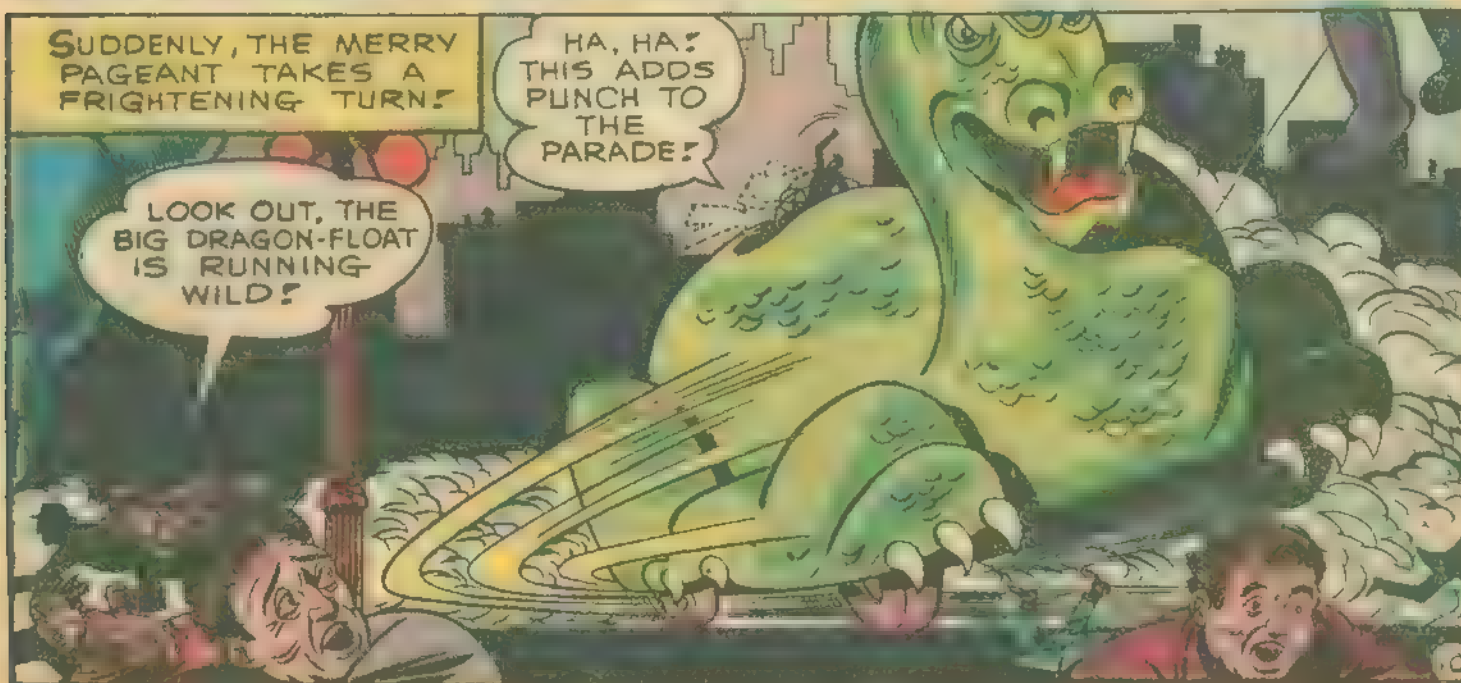
LATER...

I DON'T THINK
I CAN
PREPARE MORE
ELIXIR
TONIGHT!

YOU MUST! I'M CERTAIN
THE JOKER MEANS
TO SABOTAGE
STACY STORES' BIG
ANNIVERSARY.
PARADE TOMORROW!
AND THIS IS THE
ONLY WAY I CAN
CATCH HIM!



NEXT MORNING, THE STORES OF THE
THIRD THREATENED MAGNATE BEGIN
THEIR ANNUAL PARADE OF GIANT,
FANTASTIC BALLOON FIGURES!



SUDDENLY, THE MERRY
PAGEANT TAKES A
FRIGHTENING TURN!

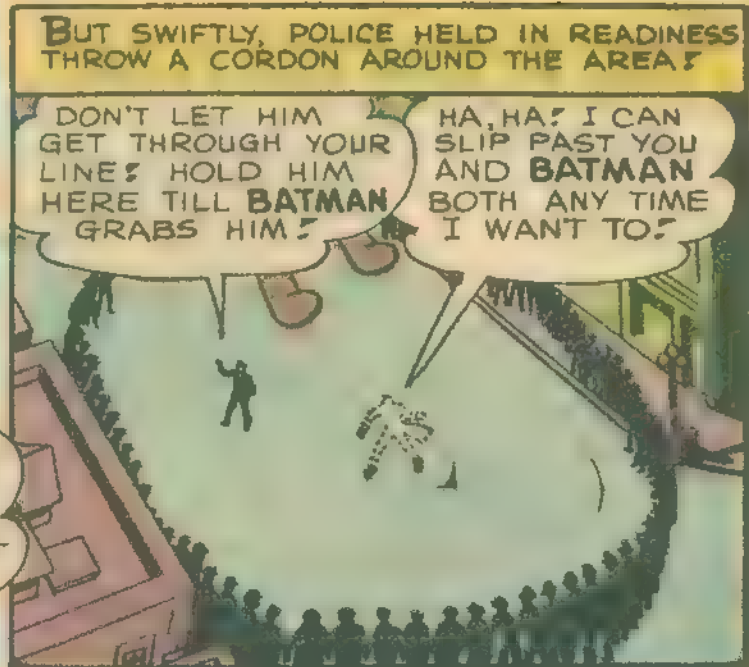
HA, HA!
THIS ADDS
PUNCH TO
THE
PARADE!

LOOK OUT, THE
BIG DRAGON-FLOAT
IS RUNNING-
WILD!



THE PANIC
I'M CREATING
WILL CONVINCE
STACY IT
WOULD BE
BETTER TO
PAY ME!

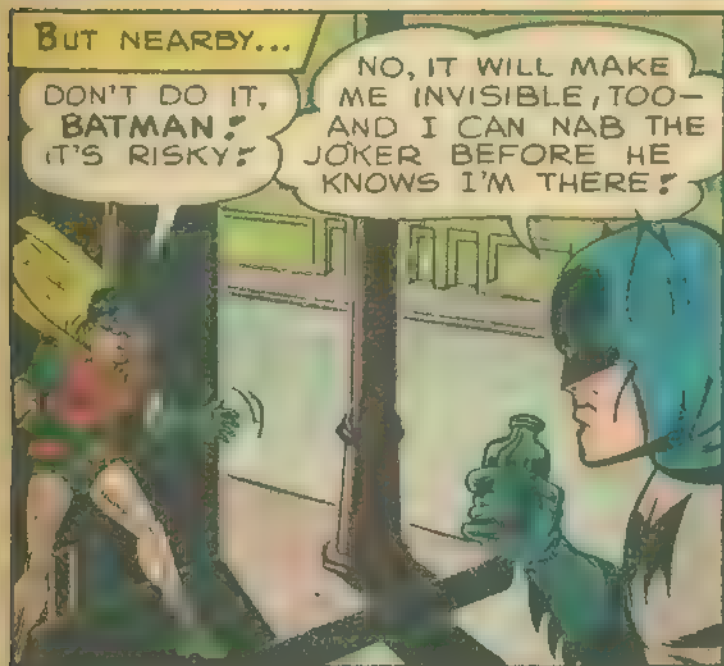
IT'S THE
INVISIBLE
CRIMINAL!
HE'S HERE—
RUN!



BUT SWIFTLY, POLICE HELD IN READINESS
THROW A CORDON AROUND THE AREA!

DON'T LET HIM
GET THROUGH YOUR
LINE! HOLD HIM
HERE TILL **BATMAN**
GRABS HIM!

HA, HA! I CAN
SLIP PAST YOU
AND **BATMAN**
BOTH ANY TIME
I WANT TO!



BUT NEARBY...

DON'T DO IT,
BATMAN!
IT'S RISKY!

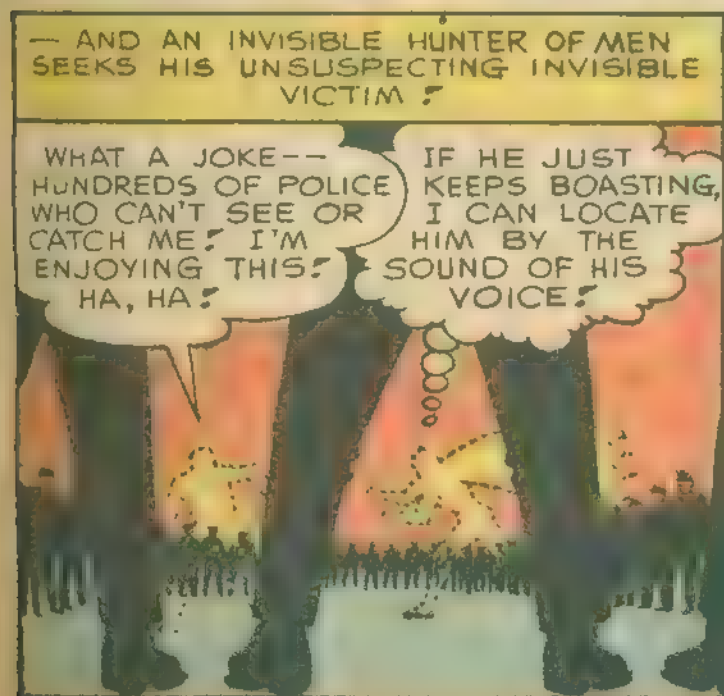
NO, IT WILL MAKE
ME INVISIBLE, TOO—
AND I CAN NAB THE
JOKER BEFORE HE
KNOWS I'M THERE!



THE STRANGE CHEMICAL ACTS QUICKLY...

IT'S
WORKING!

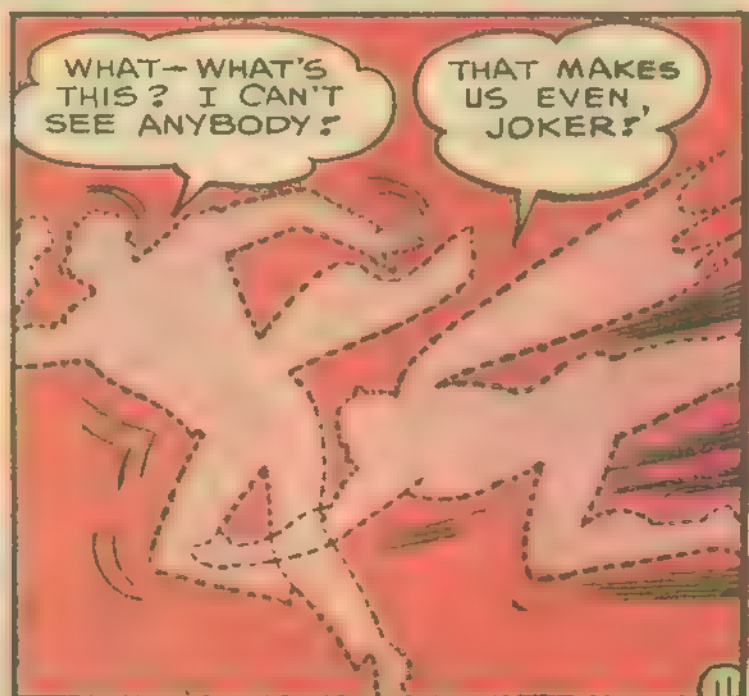
YOU'RE FADING,
LIKE A GHOST!



— AND AN INVISIBLE HUNTER OF MEN
SEEKS HIS UNSUSPECTING INVISIBLE
VICTIM!

WHAT A JOKE—
HUNDREDS OF POLICE
WHO CAN'T SEE OR
CATCH ME! I'M
ENJOYING THIS!
HA, HA!

IF HE JUST
KEEPS BOASTING,
I CAN LOCATE
HIM BY THE
SOUND OF HIS
VOICE!



WHAT—WHAT'S
THIS? I CAN'T
SEE ANYBODY!

THAT MAKES
US EVEN,
JOKER!

TWO GREAT FOES, TOTALLY INVISIBLE, BATTLE BEFORE THOUSANDS WHO CANNOT SEE THEM!

I DON'T LIKE BATMAN - BUT I'LL ESCAPE BY CLIMBING UP THIS GIANT SYMBOL OF HIM!

OH, NO, YOU DON'T!

IN A MOMENT...

BRING THE HANDCUFFS, ROBIN - I'VE GOT HIM!

BUT A FANTASTIC PROBLEM ARISES!

BUT WE STILL CAN'T SEE THEM! WHICH OF THEM IS BATMAN AND WHICH THE JOKER?

HE'S THE JOKER - I'M BATMAN!

NO, I'M BATMAN AND HE'S THE JOKER!

WE'LL HAVE TO PUT BOTH OF THEM IN JAIL TILL THEY BECOME VISIBLE AGAIN!

NO, LET THEM WHISPER MY REAL NAME TO ME - THAT'S A SECRET ONLY BATMAN KNOWS!

YOU'RE DICK GRAYSON - AND I'M BRUCE WAYNE!

THIS ONE IS BATMAN - AND THE OTHER IS THE JOKER!

LATER, WHEN THE EFFECT OF THE INVISIBILITY ELIXIR HAS FADED...

WE'RE LOCKING UP TIMMINS' ELIXIR FOR SAFEKEEPING - AND YOU'RE BEING LOCKED UP FOR SAFEKEEPING, TOO!

LET ME ALONE! I CAN SEE YOU NOW - BUT I DON'T WANT TO!

Bob ELLIOTT

NATIONAL LEAGUE'S
MOST VALUABLE PLAYER-1947

BASES
LOADED, BOB
--YOU'RE UP

I
KNOW

WE GOTTA
WIN TODAY,
GANG

CALLED "MR. TEAM" BY
HIS BOSTON BRAVES TEAM-
MATES, ELLIOTT'S A REAL
HUSTLER. HUSKY 6 FT. 185 LB.
ATHLETE PLAYS BOTH 3RD BASE
AND OUTFIELD - WHEREVER HE
CAN HELP HIS TEAM MOST.

A MURDEROUS HITTER IN THE CLUTCH,
"BUSTIN' BOB" KNOCKED IN 113 RUNS LAST
YEAR FROM CLEANUP SLOT IN BRAVES
LINEUP. ALSO BOASTED .317 BATTING
AVERAGE, AND SLAMMED 22 HOME-RUNS
--FOR NATIONAL LEAGUE'S FINEST
ALL-AROUND PERFORMANCE.

"I'VE BEEN EATING WHEATIES
- 'BREAKFAST OF CHAMPIONS'
- FOR OVER TEN YEARS," SAYS BOB
ELLIOTT. "THEY'RE WHOLESOME
- NOURISHING - AND PACK LOTS OF
SWELL FLAVOR. I'D RECOMMEND WHEATIES,
WITH MILK AND FRUIT, TO ANY ATHLETE AS
A TOP-FLIGHT TRAINING DISH."

BETTER TRY
WHEATIES, FELLAS

WHEATIES
**BREAKFAST
OF CHAMPIONS**
WITH MILK AND FRUIT

WIN *Rollfast* SKATES!

1,000 PAIR FOR THE BEST 1,000 NAMES SENT IN!

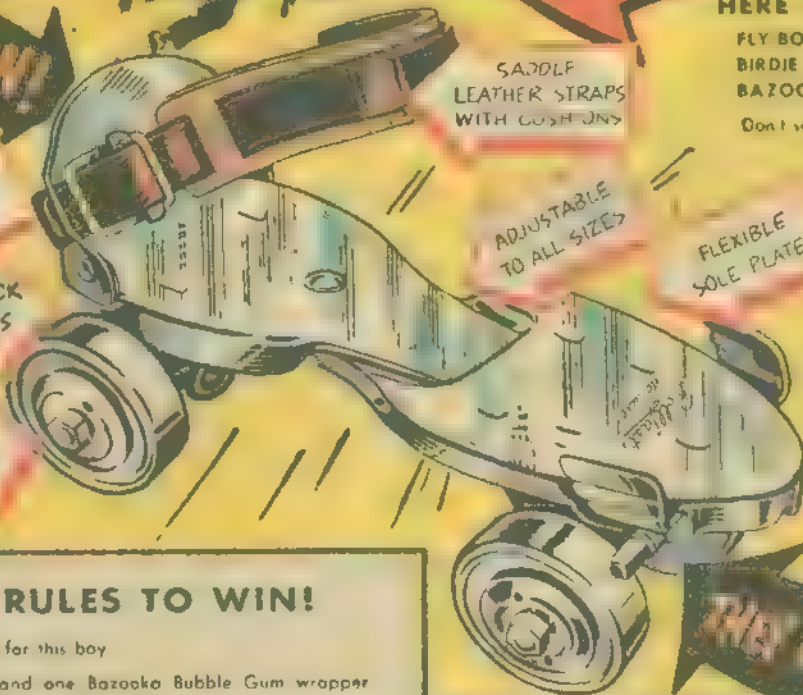


EASY TO WIN!

MILITARY
BUCKLES

RUBBER SHOCK
ABSORBERS

BALL
BEARINGS



SADDLE
LEATHER STRAPS
WITH CUSHIONS

ADJUSTABLE
TO ALL SIZES

FLEXIBLE
SOLE PLATES

FAST GET AWAY
TYPE WHEELS

NAME THIS BOY!

HERE ARE SOME HINTS:

FLY BOY
BIRDIE
BAZOOKID

BLOWHARD
SKY KING
ROCKET BOY

Don't send in any of these, of course.
They're just examples.



EASY RULES TO WIN!

1. Choose a name for this boy
2. Send in name and one Bazooka Bubble Gum wrapper to Box No. 100, Brooklyn 32, N. Y. Send as many names as you please, with one Bazooka wrapper for each name.
3. A pair of famous Rollfast Skates will be awarded for each of the best 1,000 names.
4. Names will win that are most original, catchy, easiest to remember. Decision of judges is final. Hurry! In case of duplicates, earliest postmark wins.
5. Entries must be postmarked before Sept. 1, 1948. For list of winners, send self-addressed, stamped envelope to Box No. 100, Brooklyn 32, N. Y.
6. Contest open to all residents of U. S., its territories and possessions, except employees of Topps Chewing Gum and their advertising agency.

BOYS! GIRLS! Here's your chance to own a wonderful pair of famous Rollfast Skates with double ball race bearings and saddle-leather straps.

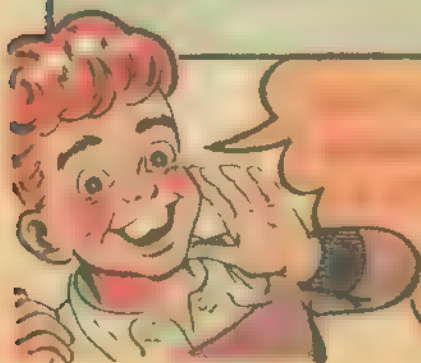
You've seen Bazooka, the Atom Bubble Boy, in the comics. He's the dare-devil boy who flies into the teeth of danger on his magic giant bubble, chasing robbers, saving little girls and winning cheers of praise wherever he goes.

So—send us a new name for this boy. Any name that's unusual, catchy, and suitable for this wonderful new comic-strip hero.

For the best 1,000 names you boys and girls send in (with a Bazooka wrapper for each name sent), we'll award 1,000 pairs of these handsome, Rollfast skates. Think of that! 1,000 winners. You've got a great chance!

THE OFFICIAL BUBBLE GUM OF RINGLING BROS.
AND BARNUM AND BAILEY
CIRCUS!

Bazooka
THE ATOM BUBBLE GUM





ROBOTMAN



PAUL DENNIS, ALIAS ROBOTMAN, THE METAL MARVEL, PAUSES TO WATCH MEN AT WORK...

ODD THAT THEY'RE ON THE JOB TODAY. IT'S SUNDAY!

THEY'RE IN A HURRY TO GET THE JOB DONE, I GUESS.

WHAT RUNS ROBOTMAN, THE MAN OF METAL? WHAT POWERS HIS SUPERB STEEL SINEWS? WHAT INTRICATE MECHANISMS LIE WITHIN THAT MIGHTY ALLOY BODY? AND HOW DOES ITS HUMAN BRAIN OPERATE THIS WALKING MACHINE? HAVE YOU EVER ASKED YOURSELF THOSE QUESTIONS? NOW YOU'LL KNOW THE ANSWERS WHEN YOU READ...

THE INSIDE STORY OF ROBOTMAN!

BUT INSIDE THE CRANE'S CAB IS NO WORKMAN-BUT DIRK MCGURK, CRIMINAL AT LARGE!

NOBODY WOULD RECOGNIZE MY MOB, 'CAUSE DE CREW AIN'T WORKIN' TODAY. NOW FOR DA BIG HAUL!

DIS CRANE'S SUPPOSED TO SCOOP UP ROCKS- AND DAT'S WHAT IT'S GONNA DO- INSIDE DA DIXON GEM COMPANY!

AND A MOMENT LATER, STEEL JAWS RETURN WITH AN ILLICIT PRIZE!

ATTA BOY, DIRK! INTO DA TRUCK WITH DA SAFE! WE'LL BLOW IT OPEN LATER!

UNSEEN, PAUL DENNIS QUICKLY SWITCHES TO HIS FIGHTING ROLE OF... **ROBOTMAN!**

YOU MUST HAVE BEEN UP ALL NIGHT, THINKING THIS ONE UP! YOU NEED SLEEP!

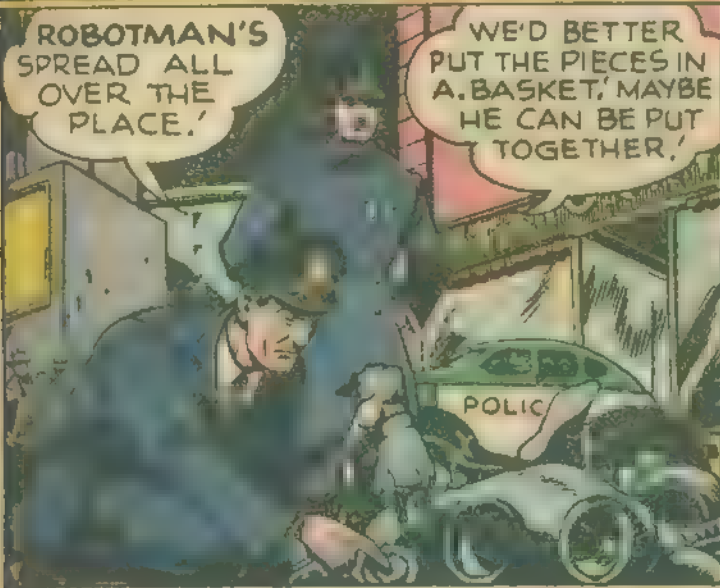
BUT DIRK MCGURK IS NOT CAUGHT NAPPING...

AS ROBOTMAN IS FLUNG AGAINST THE REINFORCED CONCRETE WALL, THE TERRIBLE CRASH IS LIKE THE CRACK OF DOOM!

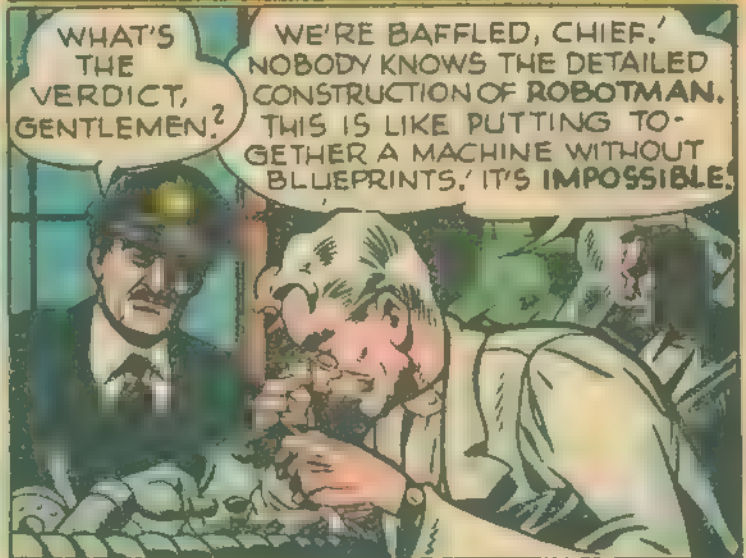
NO CHARGE FOR DA RIDE, TIN MAN!

HA! HA!
HE BUSTED APART LIKE A CHEAP WATCH!

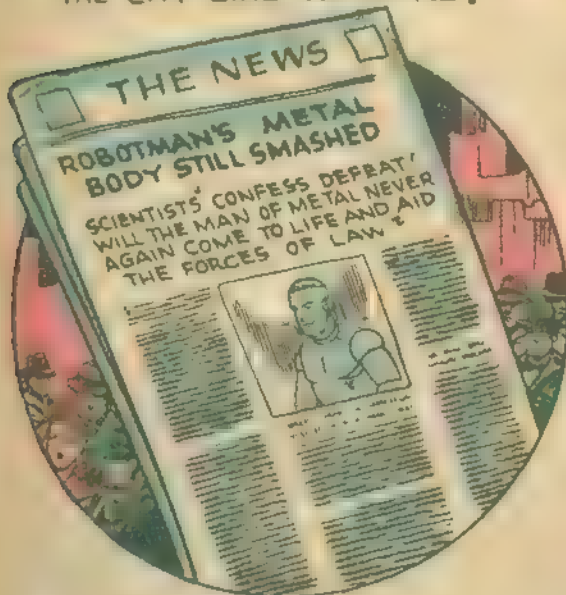
WHEN THE CRIMINALS ARE GONE AND THE POLICE ARRIVE ...



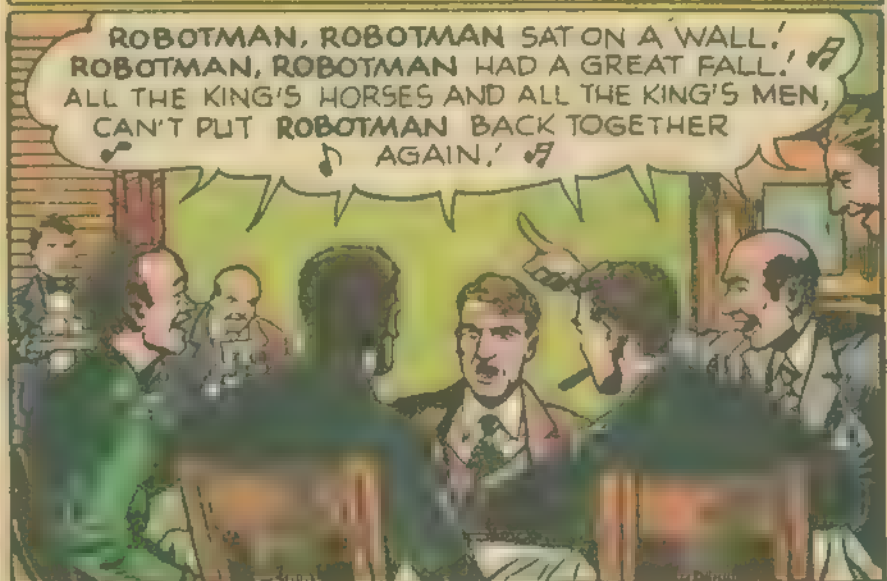
LATER, IN A LABORATORY WORKSHOP, WHERE LEARNED MEN HAVE BEEN SUMMONED FOR THE EMERGENCY ...



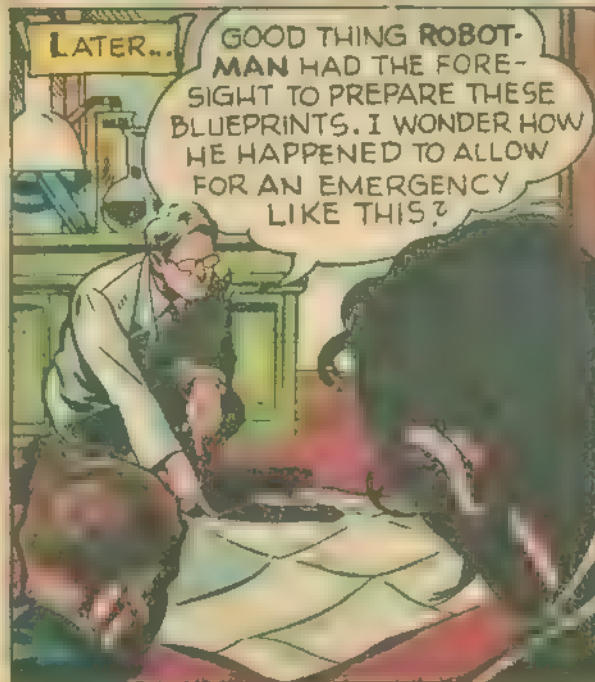
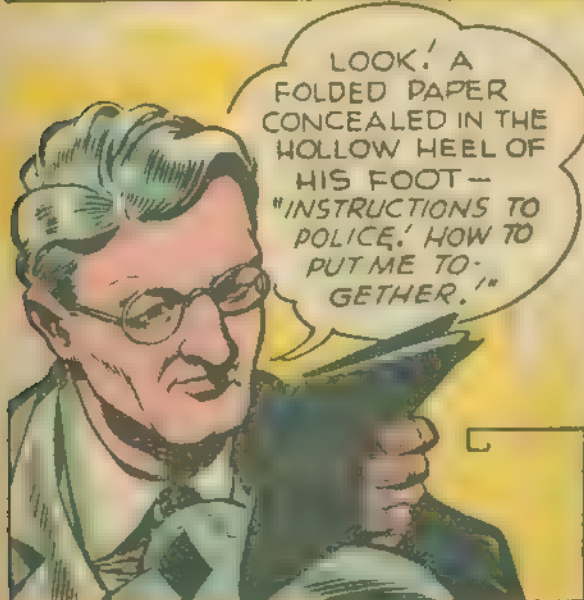
SOON, THE STUNNING NEWS SWEEPS THE CITY LIKE WILDFIRE!



MEANWHILE, THE UNDERWORLD JOYOUSLY SINGS A FUNERAL DIRGE ...



BUT IN THE LABORATORY, A VITAL DISCOVERY IS MADE ...



THAT IS ANOTHER STRANGE STORY! LET US TURN THE CLOCK BACK A FEW YEARS TO THE TIME WHEN ROBOTMAN WAS FIRST CREATED!



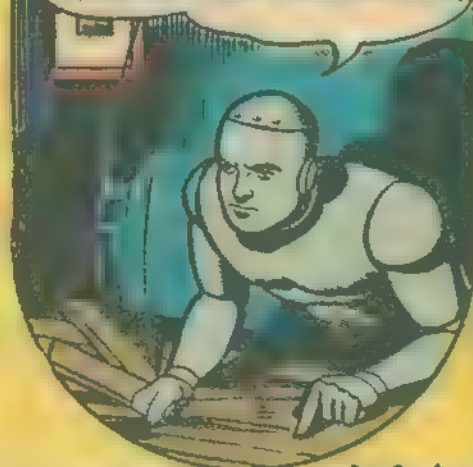
IN A SCIENTIFIC LABORATORY...
"THIS IS A LIVING BRAIN, ENCASED
IN PROTECTIVE METAL." HIS
BODY DIED WHEN HE WAS SHOT
BY CRIMINALS. BUT THIS
BRAIN WILL HAVE A NEW
BODY— OF STEEL."

"HIS CHEST NOW CONTAINS A
POWERFUL ELECTRIC MOTOR. AND
THAT SPECIAL LIFETIME BATTERY
RECHARGES ITSELF FROM THE
COSMIC RAYS THAT CONSTANTLY
STREAM DOWN ON EARTH."
HE WILL NEVER NEED FUEL."

THUS A MIRACLE MAN OF
METAL WAS BORN."

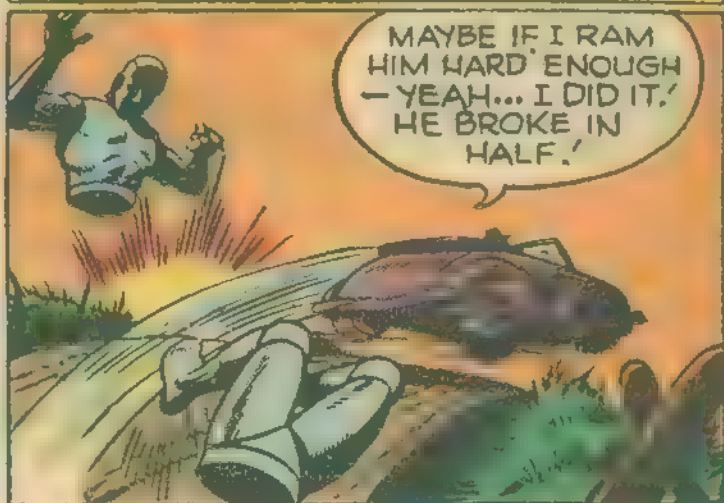


I LIVE
AGAIN— WITH
RENEWED STRENGTH!
NOW I AM READY TO
AVENGE MY "MURDER!"
I, ROBOTMAN, DECLARE
WAR ON THE UNDERWORLD!

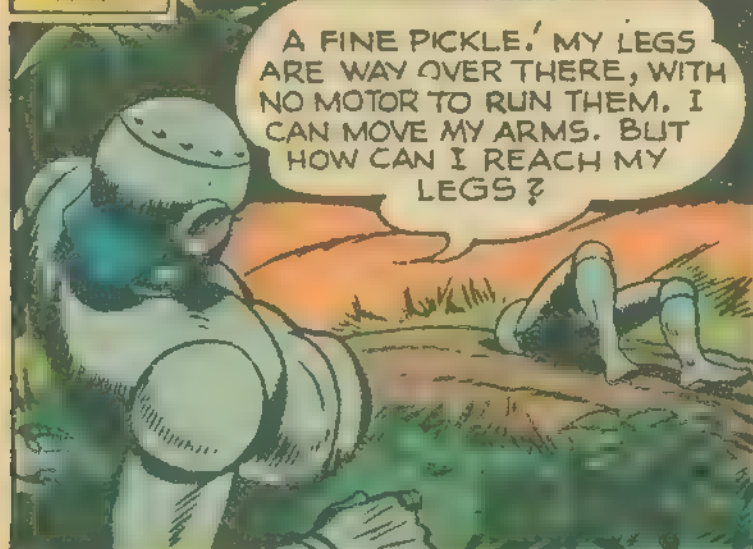


AND SO, ROBOTMAN FARED FORTH
ON HIS CRUSADE AGAINST CRIME,
AND QUICKLY MADE HISTORY."

BUT SOON AFTER, DISASTER STRUCK
WHEN ROBOTMAN TRAILED A CRIMINAL
TO A COUNTRY SHACK...



ROBOTMAN WAS LEFT TO A LINGERING
FATE!"



CAN'T DRAG MYSELF OVER
EITHER, BECAUSE THE ELECTRIC
CIRCUIT HAS BEEN BROKEN FROM
THE TRANSFORMER IN MY LEGS!"



LONG HOURS PASSED... A LIGHTNING STORM BROKE...

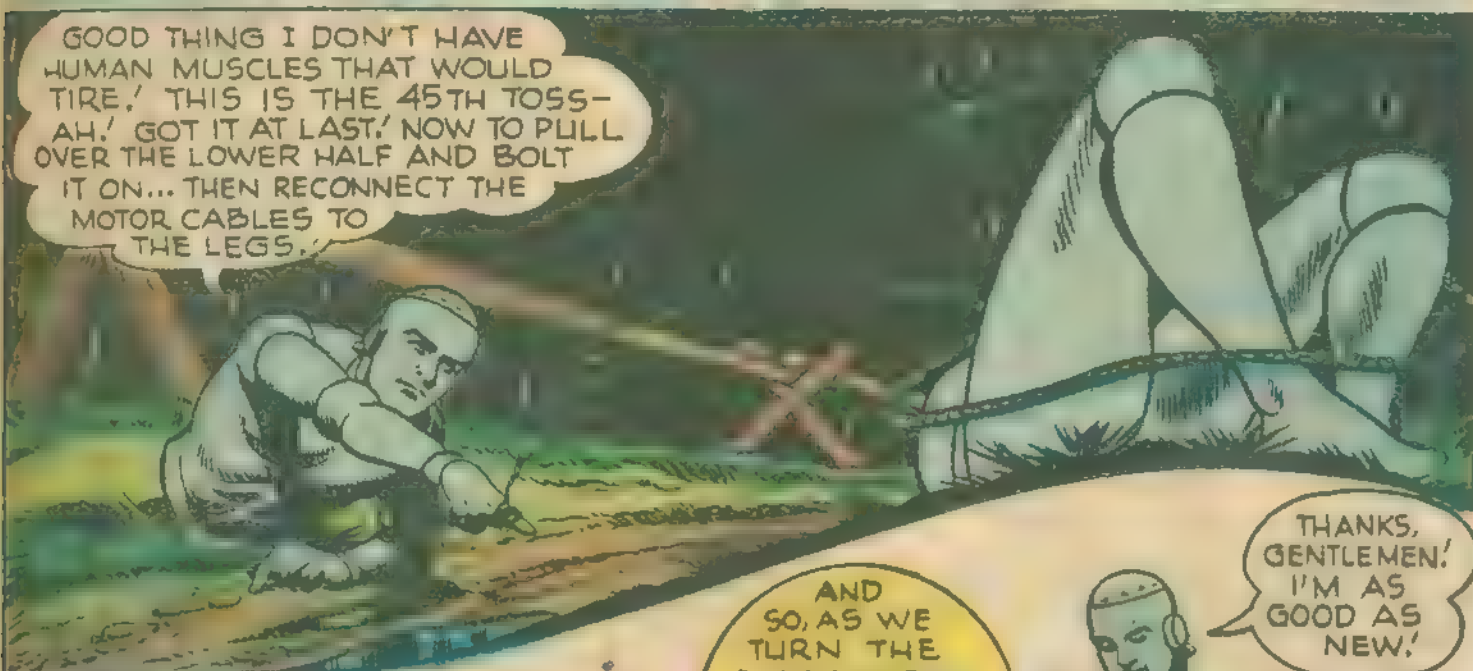
THIS LIGHTNING DOESN'T BOTHER ME. BUT THE MUD MIGHT CLOG MY JOINTS! WAIT... THESE WEEDS!



WHY NOT WEAVE A SORT OF ROPE OUT OF THEM?



GOOD THING I DON'T HAVE HUMAN MUSCLES THAT WOULD TIRE! THIS IS THE 45TH TOSS-AH! GOT IT AT LAST! NOW TO PULL OVER THE LOWER HALF AND BOLT IT ON... THEN RECONNECT THE MOTOR CABLES TO THE LEGS.



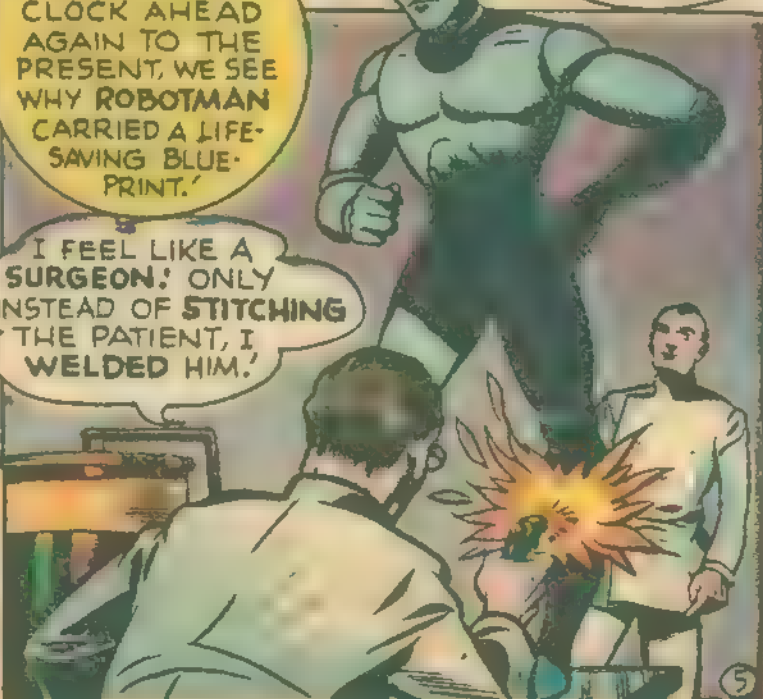
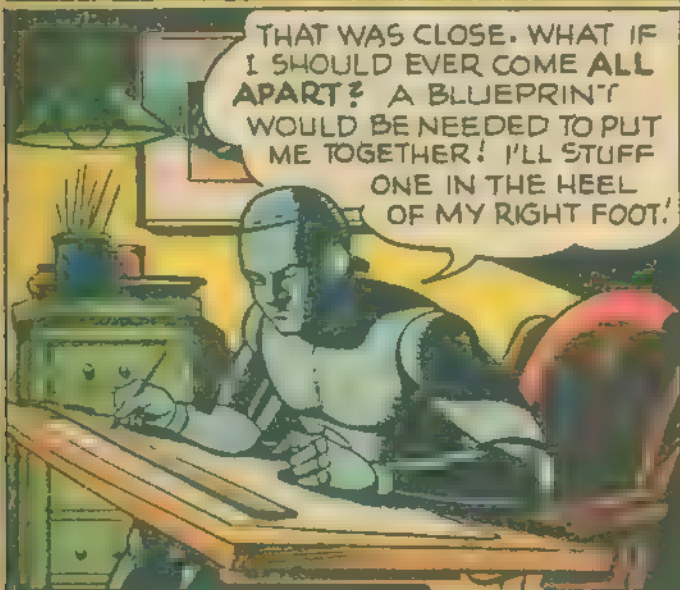
THANKS, GENTLEMEN! I'M AS GOOD AS NEW!

AND SO, AS WE TURN THE CLOCK AHEAD AGAIN TO THE PRESENT, WE SEE WHY ROBOTMAN CARRIED A LIFE-SAVING BLUE-PRINT.

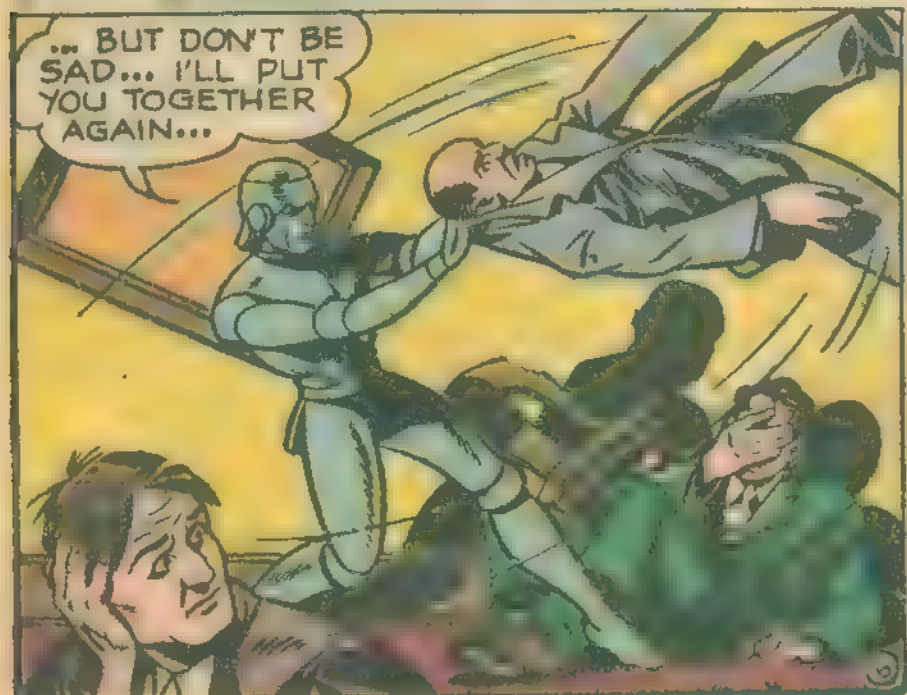
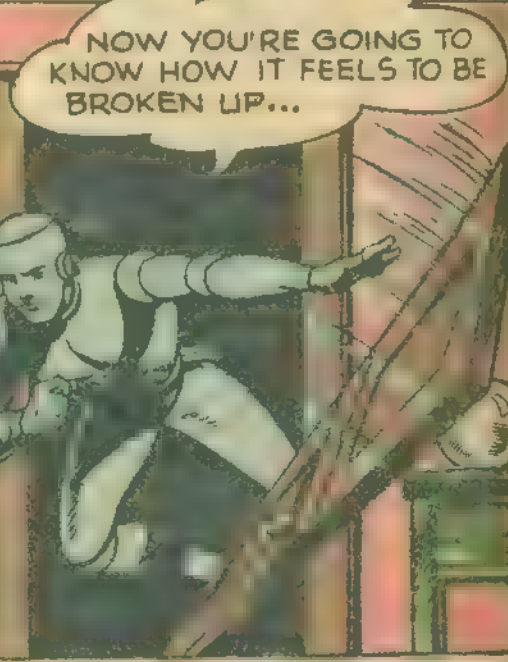
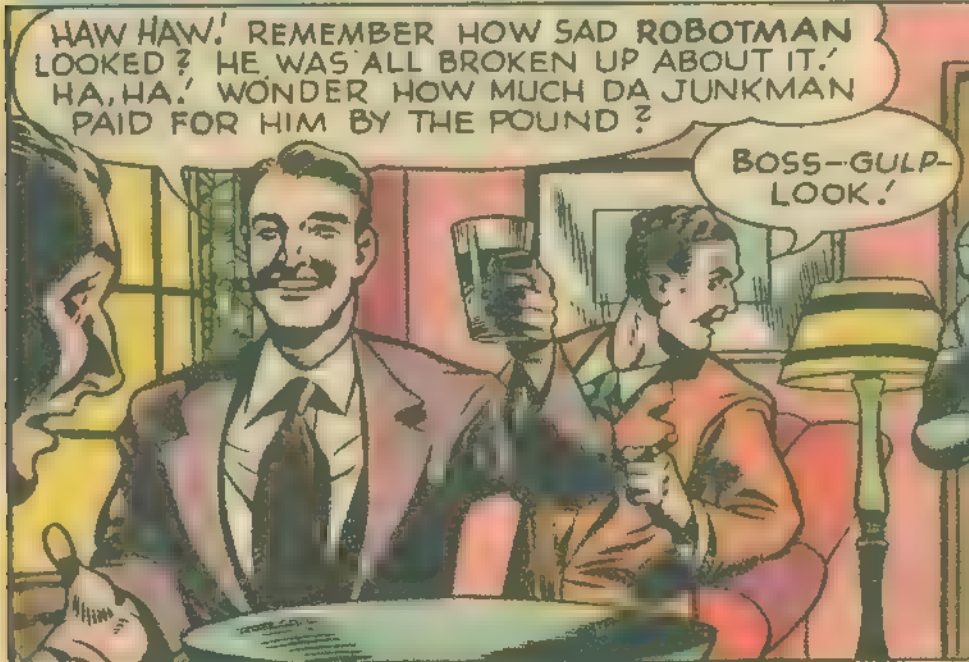
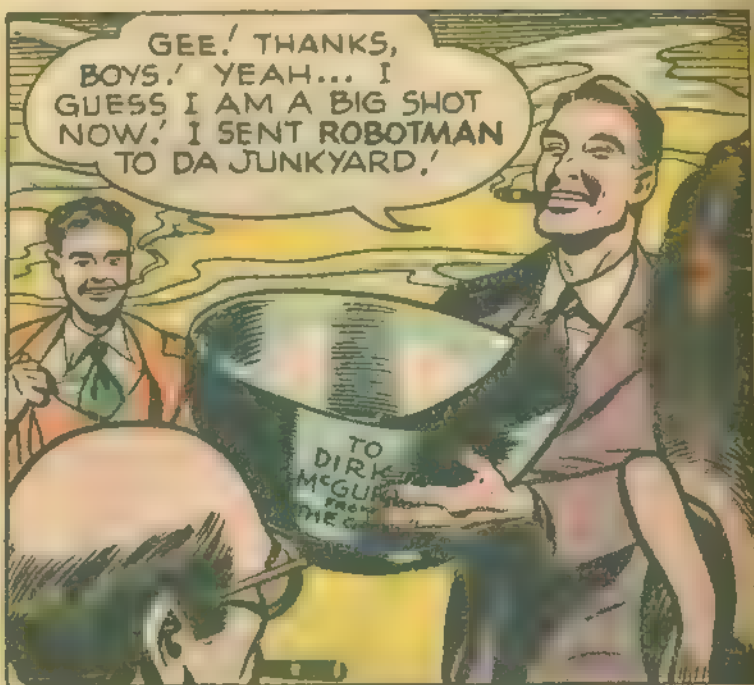
I FEEL LIKE A SURGEON! ONLY INSTEAD OF STITCHING THE PATIENT, I WELDED HIM!

LATER, BACK HOME SAFELY, ROBOTMAN REALIZES HIS ONE GREAT WEAKNESS...

THAT WAS CLOSE. WHAT IF I SHOULD EVER COME ALL APART? A BLUEPRINT WOULD BE NEEDED TO PUT ME TOGETHER! I'LL STUFF ONE IN THE HEEL OF MY RIGHT FOOT!



ROBOTMAN'S RECOVERY IS KEPT SECRET AT HIS OWN REQUEST, AND ON THE FOLLOWING DAY PAUL DENNIS PROWLs THE UNDERWORLD...



GIRLS!-BOYS! Get This New BEANIE 'COPTER

Only **25¢**

with any wrapper from
Tootsie Rolls, Tootsie Fudge, or Tootsie Pops

HOOTIN' ZOOTS! HERE'S A REAL
GENUINE BEANIE MOUNTED WITH
A 5-INCH HELICOPTER BLADE. SEE
IT SPIN LIKE A CYCLONE WHEN
YOU WALK OR RUN!

IT'S NEW! YOU'LL
MISS LOTS OF
FUN IF YOU DON'T
HAVE A REAL
TOOTSIE
BEANIE
'COPTER!

KEEN FOR
BIKE RIDING!



MORE FUN
SKATING!



CLASS WITH
A PUSHMOBILE!



You'll whirl with real live action, fellows and girls, when you wear this keen-looking new Tootsie BEANIE 'COPTER. You get a gay colored beanie, pressed into six sections, sharply scalloped around the edge and stitched. Top of the crown has a real metal sleeve bearing mechanism on which is mounted a 5-inch helicopter blade. This blade comes in bright, flashing color designs.

It's a knockout! You can get as many beanies as you want. For each one send only 25 cents and any size wrapper from Tootsie Rolls, Tootsie Fudge, or Tootsie Pops. Rush coupon today. You'll be glad you did.

TOOTSIE ROLLS
Box 331, New York 8, N. Y.

You bet I want to be first in my neighborhood to sport a new Tootsie BEANIE 'COPTER. For each one I enclose 25¢ (in coin) and a wrapper from Tootsie Roll, Tootsie Fudge, or Tootsie Pop.

My Name.....
(Please Print Plainly)

My Address.....

City.....Zone.....State.....

OFFER EXPIRES OCTOBER 31, 1948. SUPPLY LIMITED—FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED

Void if taxed, restricted or forbidden by law in your state or municipality.

Offer good only in United States



SCRIBBLY

IS HERE! DON'T
MISS THIS TERRIFIC
NEW **ALL-AGE**
TEEN-AGE MAGAZINE!

LAUGHS!

SURPRISES!

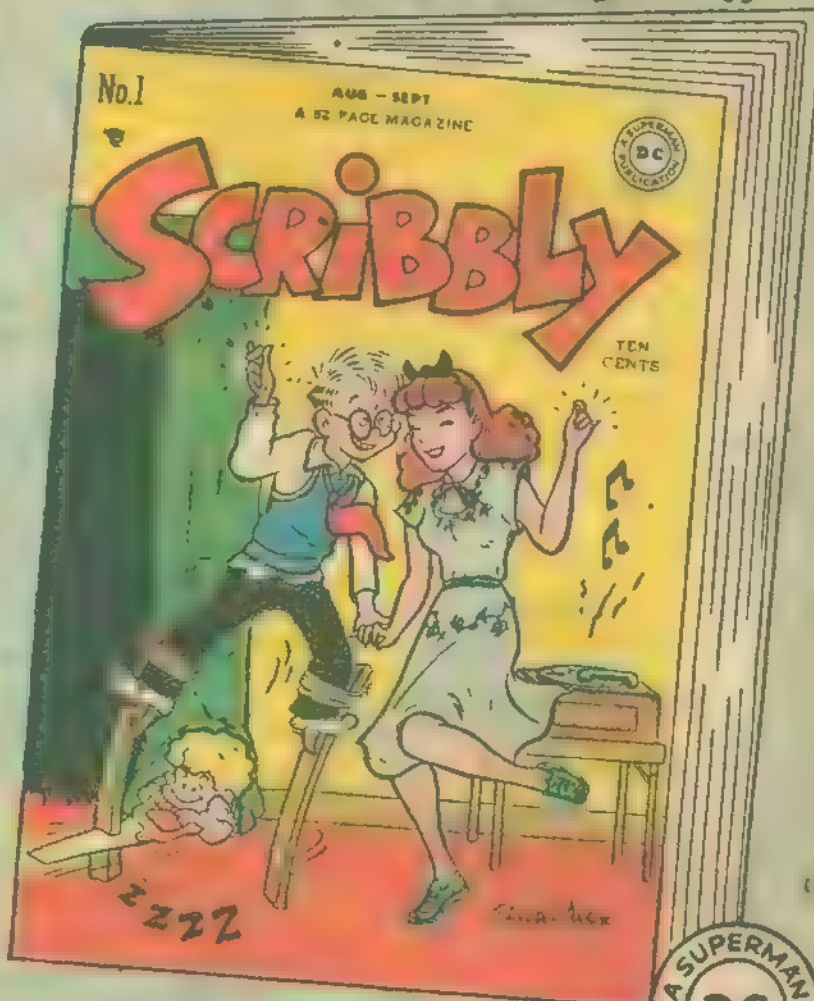
ADVENTURE!

ROMANCE!

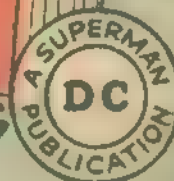
SMACK

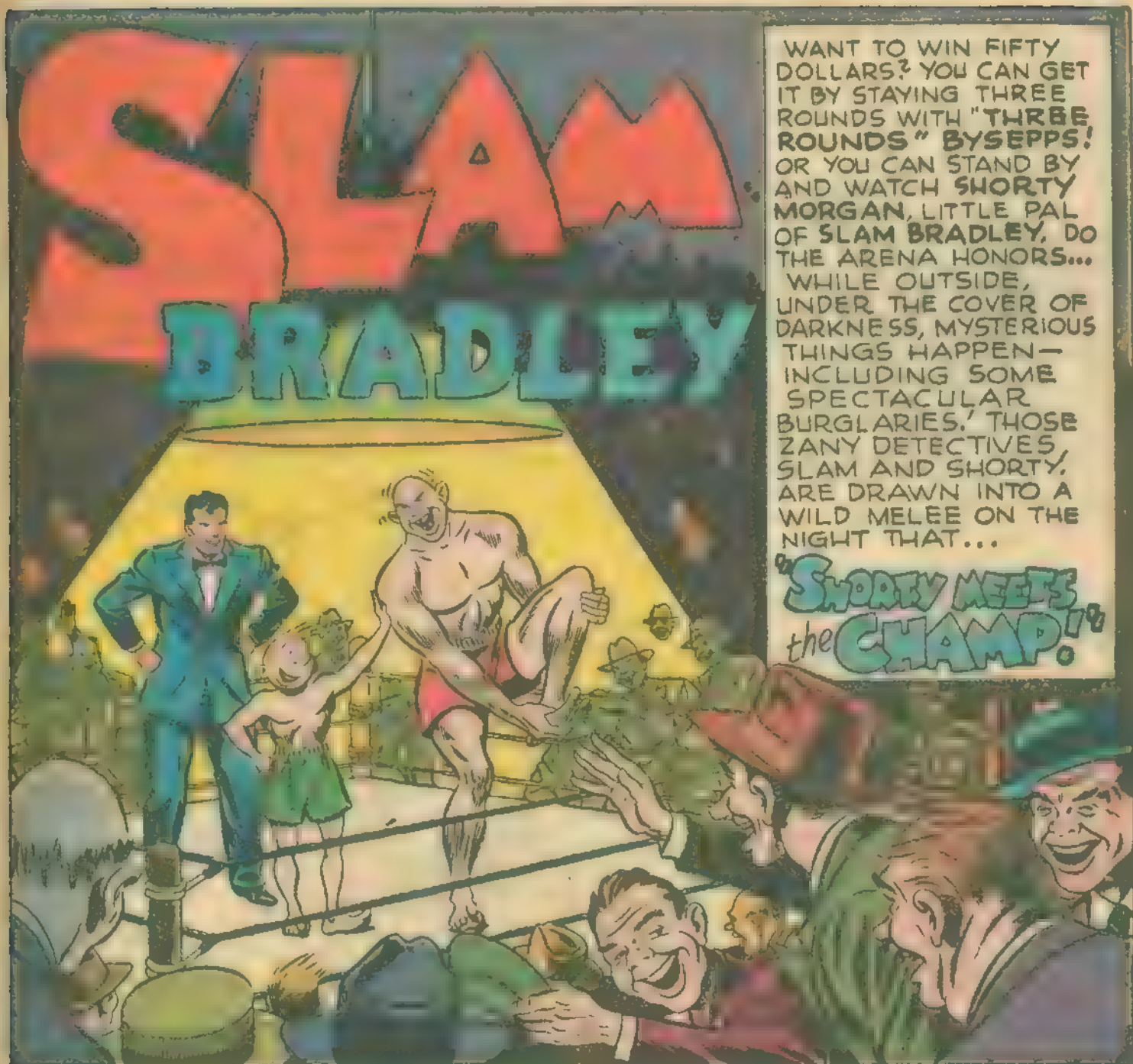
IT'S GOT EVERYTHING! AND IT'S
THE FUNNIEST COMIC MAGAZINE YOU'VE
EVER READ! DON'T MISS IT!!!

PATHOS!



ON SALE EVERYWHERE **JUNE 25th !!**





WANT TO WIN FIFTY DOLLARS? YOU CAN GET IT BY STAYING THREE ROUNDS WITH "THREE ROUNDS" BYSEPPTS! OR YOU CAN STAND BY AND WATCH SHORTY MORGAN, LITTLE PAL OF SLAM BRADLEY, DO THE ARENA HONORS... WHILE OUTSIDE, UNDER THE COVER OF DARKNESS, MYSTERIOUS THINGS HAPPEN—INCLUDING SOME SPECTACULAR BURGLARIES! THOSE ZANY DETECTIVES, SLAM AND SHORTY, ARE DRAWN INTO A WILD MELEE ON THE NIGHT THAT...

"SHORTY MEETS the CHAMP!"

AT THE LOCAL FIGHT ARENA, A BIG-TIME WRESTLING BOUT IS ON...

"MOIDER DA SAP, 'TREE ROUNDS!"

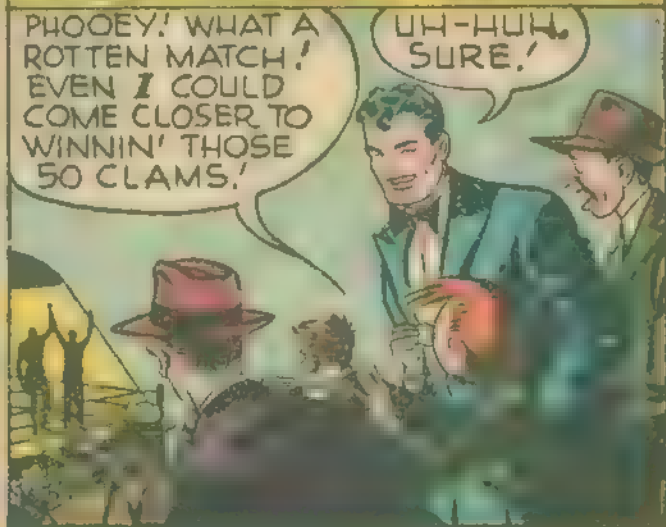
STAY THREE ROUNDS WITH THREE ROUND BYSEPPTS AND WIN \$50



AMONG THE SPECTATORS ARE PRIVATE DETECTIVES SLAM BRADLEY AND SHORTY MORGAN...

PHOOEY! WHAT A ROTTEN MATCH! EVEN I COULD COME CLOSER TO WINNIN' THOSE 50 CLAMS!

UH-HUH, SURE!



WHY, I'D TWIST THE BIG PALOOKA INTO A PRETZEL! LIKE THIS!

MAYBE ONE OF THESE DAYS YOU'LL GET TO PROVE YOUR PROWESS, YOU MIDGET HERCULES!

THREE ROUNDS WIN \$500

LATER, AS SLAM AND SHORTY WALK HOME FROM THE MATCH...

HELP! POLICE! BURGLARS!

THEN I'D GIVE HIM THIS-

UNTWIST YOURSELF, ATLAS! THERE'S A FEMALE IN DISTRESS!

QUICK, SHORTY! UP HERE!

LOOKS LIKE A MASQUERADE BALL HAS BEEN GOING ON...

UPSTAIRS, AT THE COSTUME BALL...

WE'RE PRIVATE DETECTIVES, MA'AM. WE HEARD YOUR CRY FOR HELP -

DETECTIVES? THEN START DETECTING! MY GUESTS HAVE BEEN ROBBED!

ONE MAN DID IT! HE KNOCKED OUT MY BUTLER, AND FORCED HIS WAY IN!

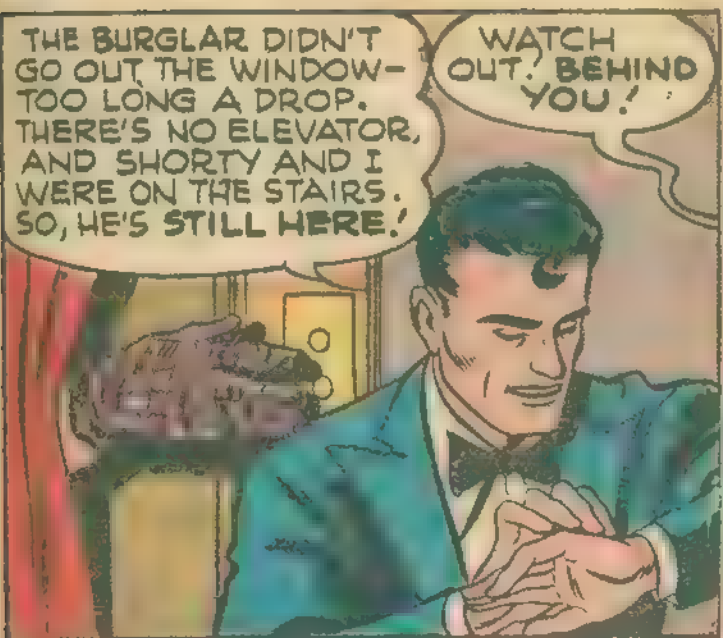
HMM, A MUSCLE MAN - LOOK AT THIS TWISTED DOOR KNOB!

IT TOOK A POWERFUL MAN TO TWIST THAT KNOB! HOW WAS HE DRESSED?

ALL IN BLACK! AND HE WORE A BLACK CAPE. I SAW HIM JUST BEFORE THE LIGHTS WENT OUT. THEN I SCREAMED.

THE BURGLAR DIDN'T GO OUT THE WINDOW—TOO LONG A DROP. THERE'S NO ELEVATOR, AND SHORTY AND I WERE ON THE STAIRS. SO, HE'S STILL HERE!

WATCH OUT! BEHIND YOU!



AGAIN THE ROOM IS THROWN INTO DARKNESS—AND CHAOS!

I'VE GOT HIM!

NO, I'VE GOT HIM!

OOW! SOMEONE HIT ME!

TURN ON THE LIGHTS!

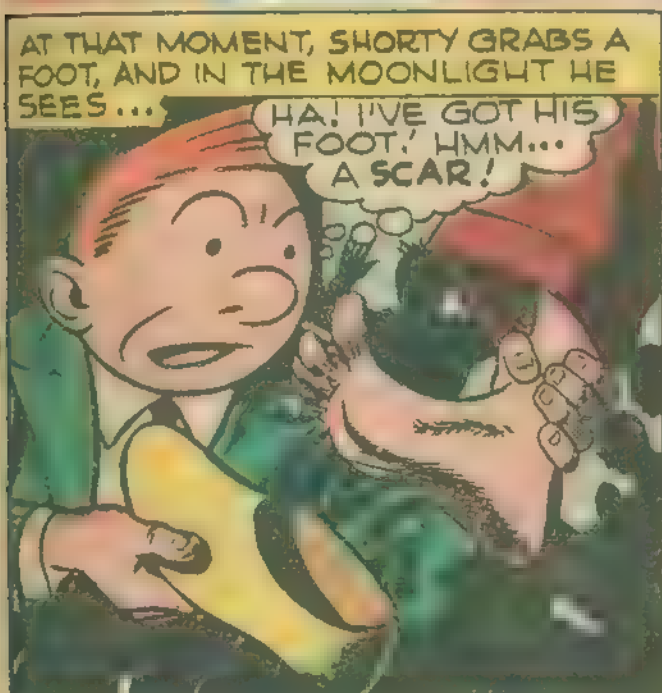
EEEK!

OWCH!



AT THAT MOMENT, SHORTY GRABS A FOOT, AND IN THE MOONLIGHT HE SEES ...

HA! I'VE GOT HIS FOOT! HMM... A SCAR!

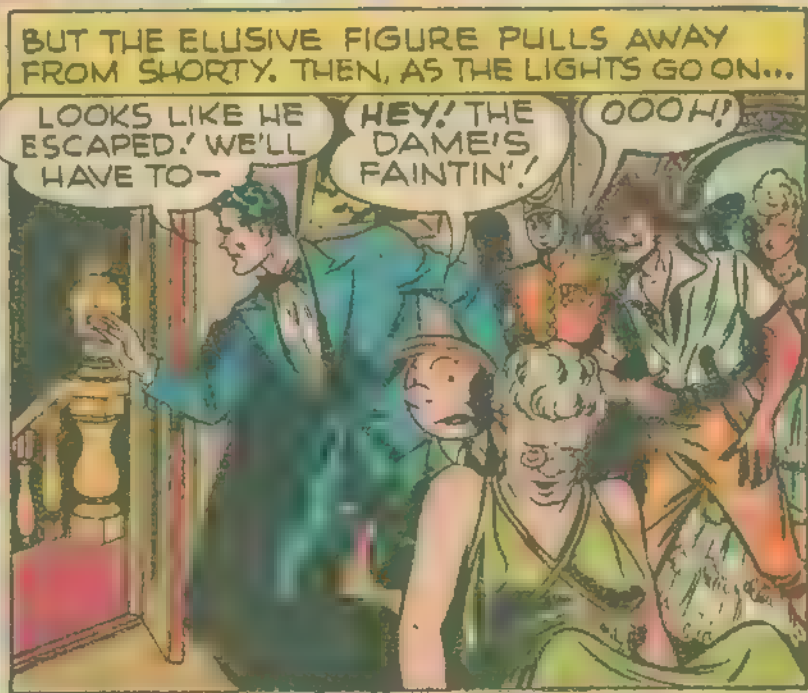


BUT THE ELUSIVE FIGURE PULLS AWAY FROM SHORTY. THEN, AS THE LIGHTS GO ON...

LOOKS LIKE HE ESCAPED! WE'LL HAVE TO—

HEY! THE DAME'S FAINTIN'!

OOOH!



IN THE DAYS THAT FOLLOW, AGAIN AND AGAIN THE MYSTERIOUS "STRONG MAN" STRIKES, GRIPPING THE CITY WITH FEAR ...

LAW

TELLER

CARTER'S JEWELRY



MEANWHILE...

"STRONG MAN!" I WISH THE COPS'D CATCH THAT GUY SO THE NEWSPAPERS WOULD STOP YAPPING ABOUT HIM!

SAY, SLAM, I'VE GOT AN IDEA WHO HE IS! AND I KNOW HOW I CAN PROVE IT!

YOU MEAN THAT SCAR ON HIS FOOT?

YEP— AN' WHO IS THE STRONGEST GUY IN TOWN? BYSEPPTS, THAT'S WHO! I'VE GOTTA FIND OUT IF HE HAS A SCAR ON HIS RIGHT FOOT!

BRADLEY AND MOORE
PRIVATE DETECTIVES

LATER, AT THE FIGHT ARENA...

OKAY, LET'S SEARCH HIS DRESSING ROOM. IF WE FIND ANY EVIDENCE—

WE'LL HAVE A SHOWDOWN! COME ON, BIG STUFF!

INSIDE BYSEPPTS' DRESSING ROOM...

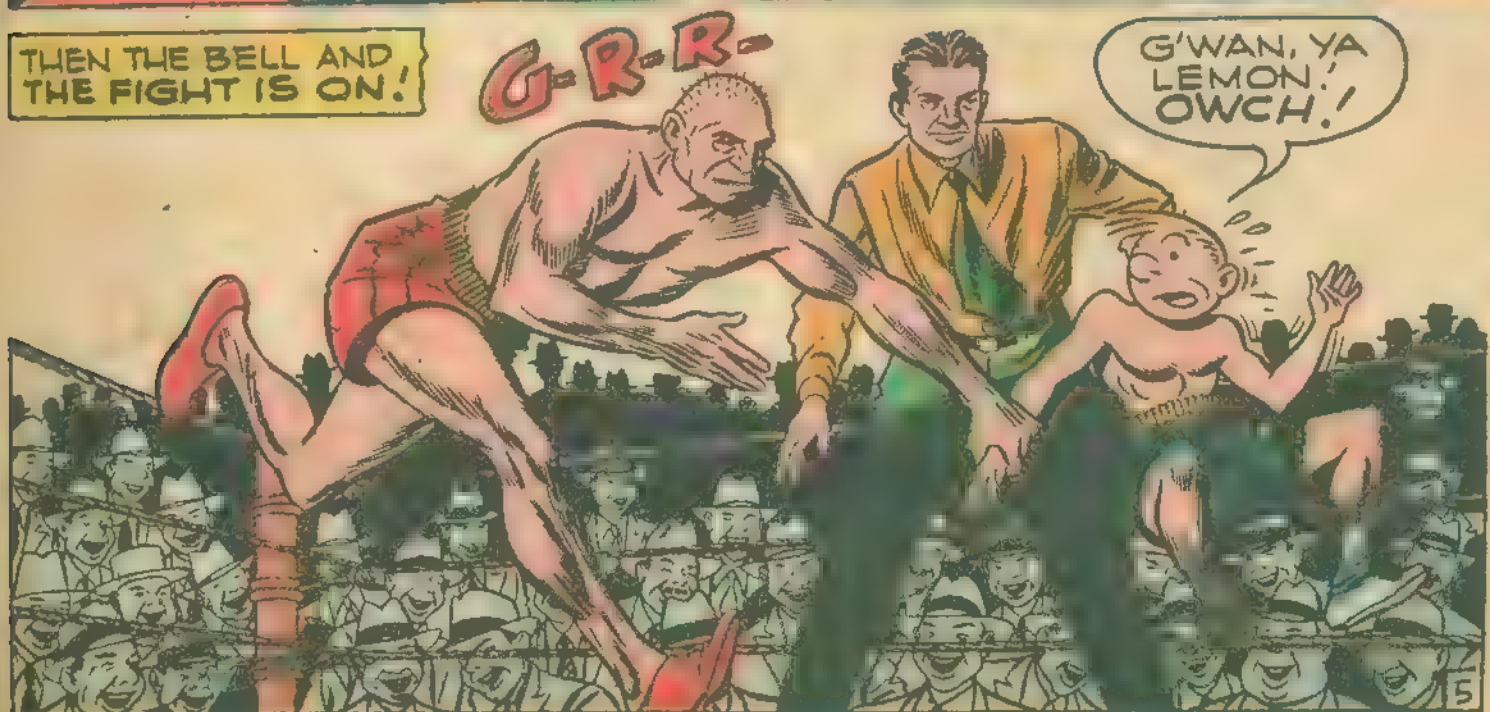
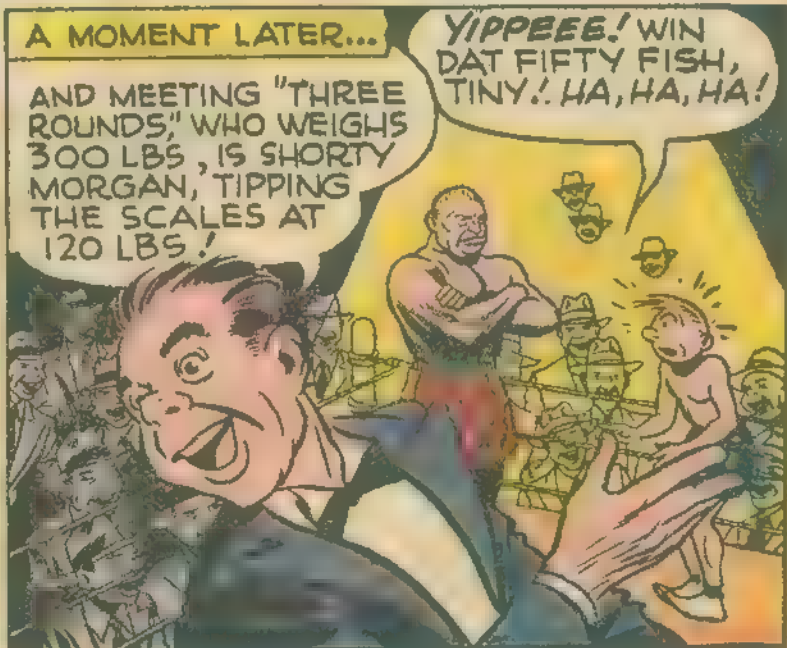
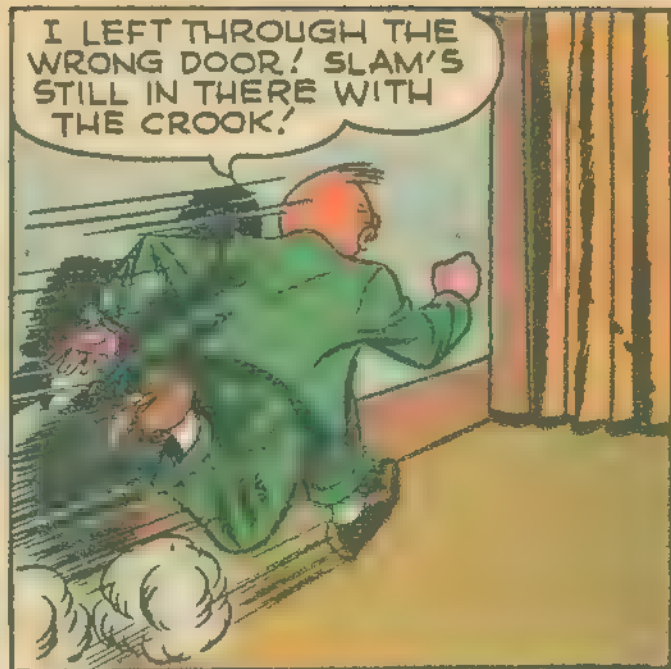
HMM—WHAT HAVE WE HERE?

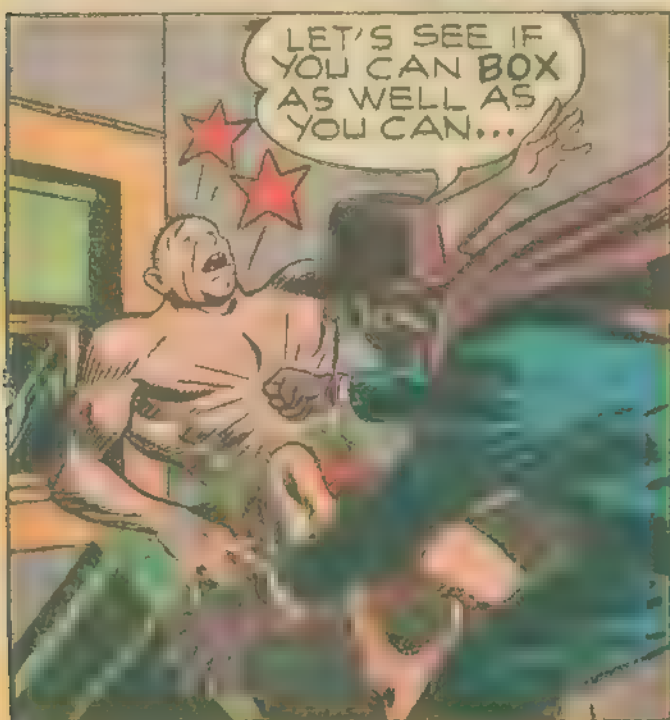
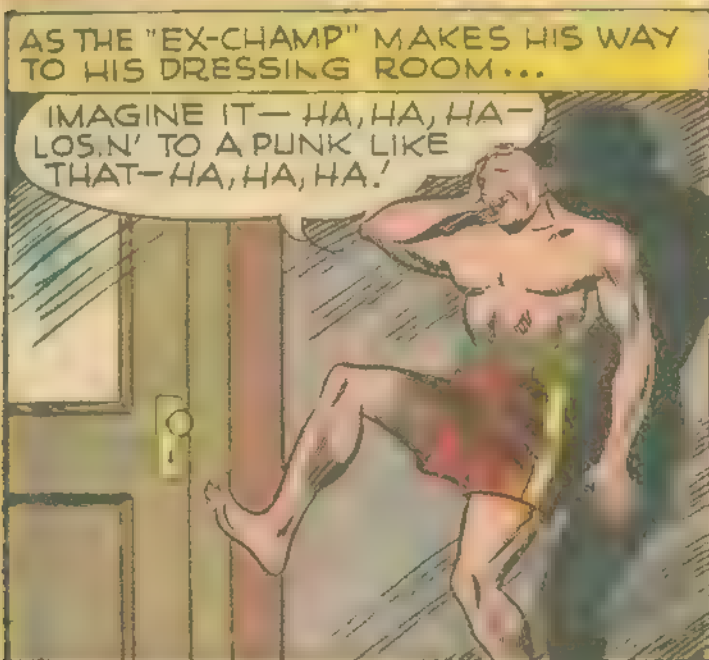
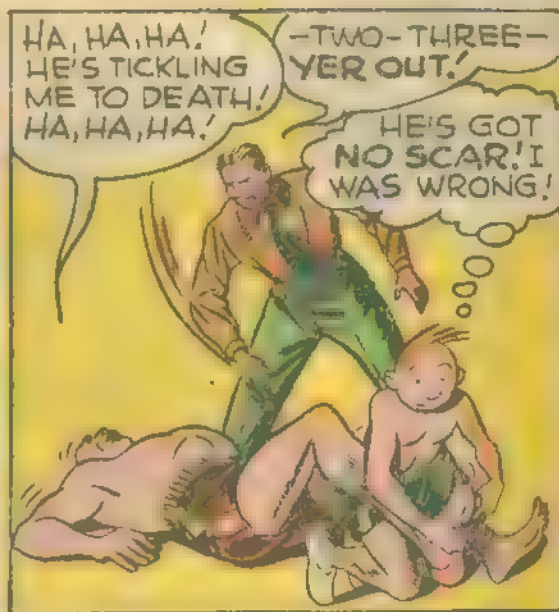
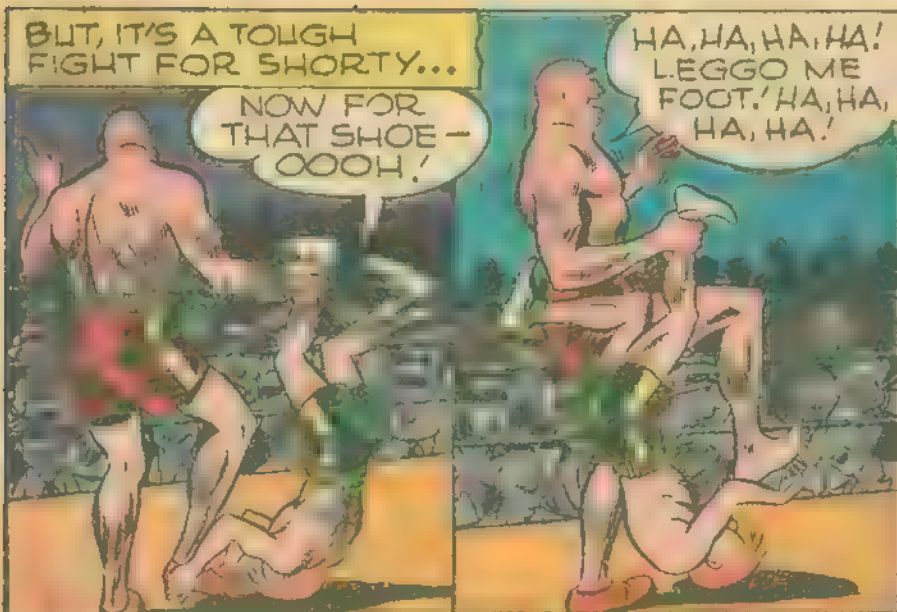
I'LL LOOK IN THE OTHER ROOM...

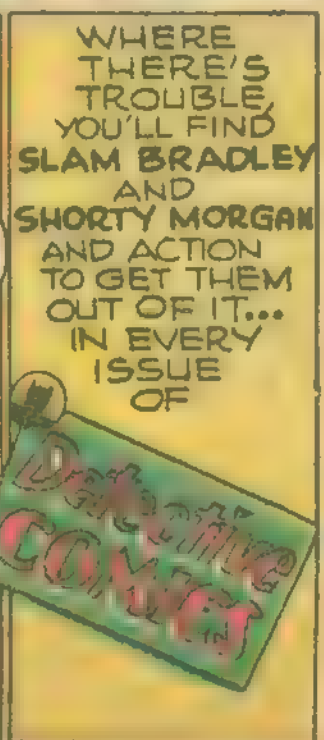
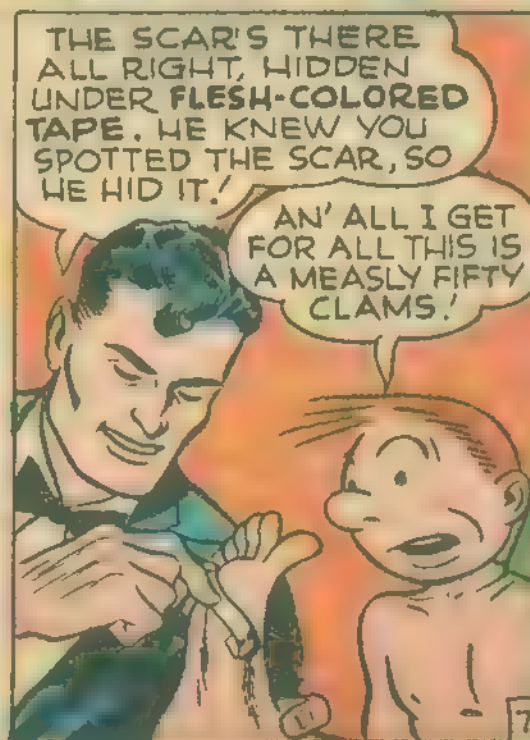
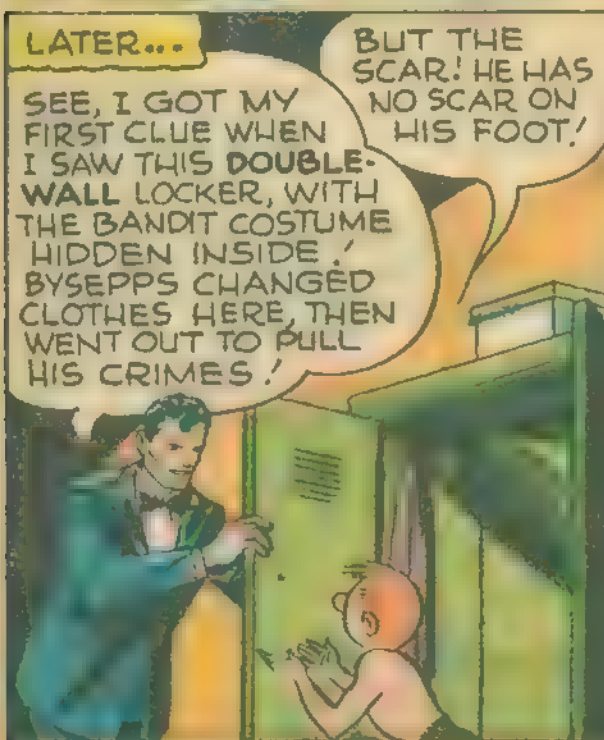
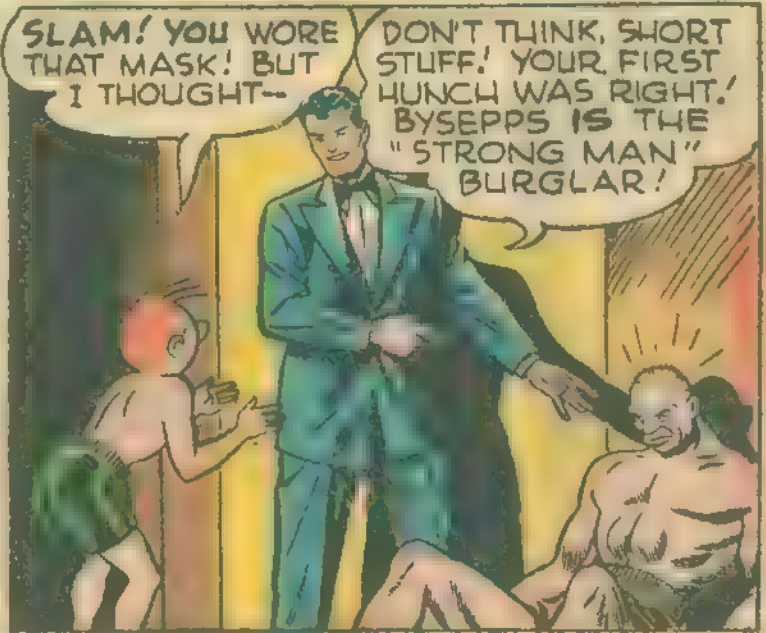
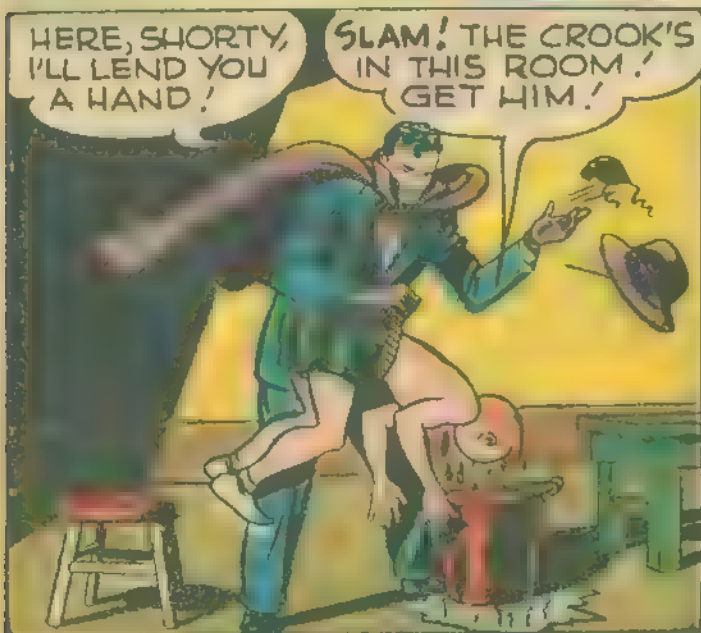
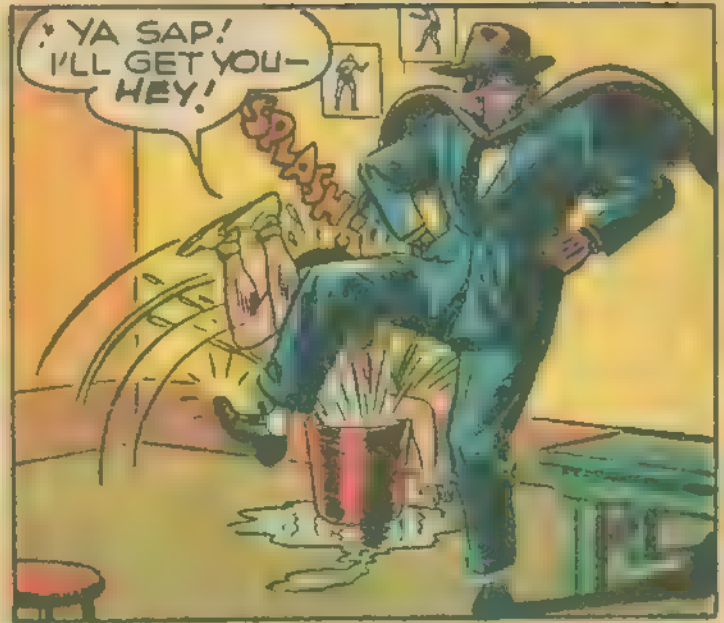
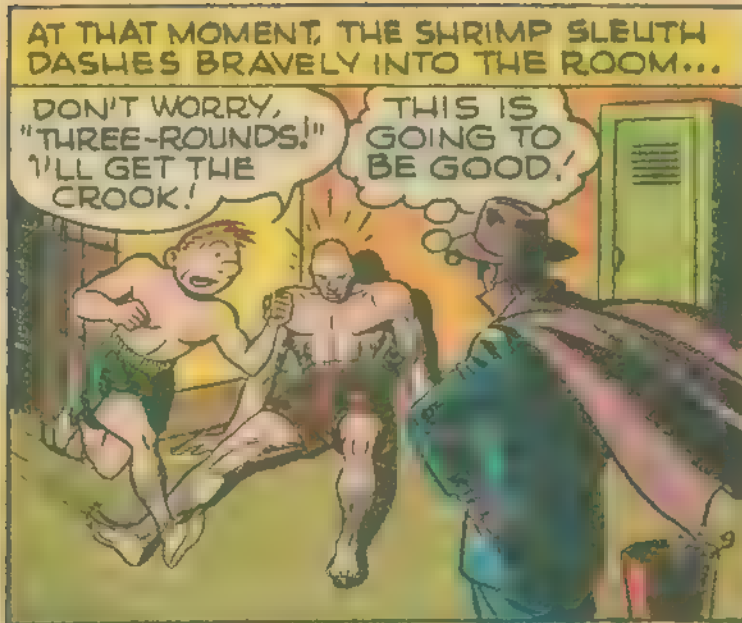
IF I COULD ONLY GET A LOOK AT BYSEPPTS' FOOT...

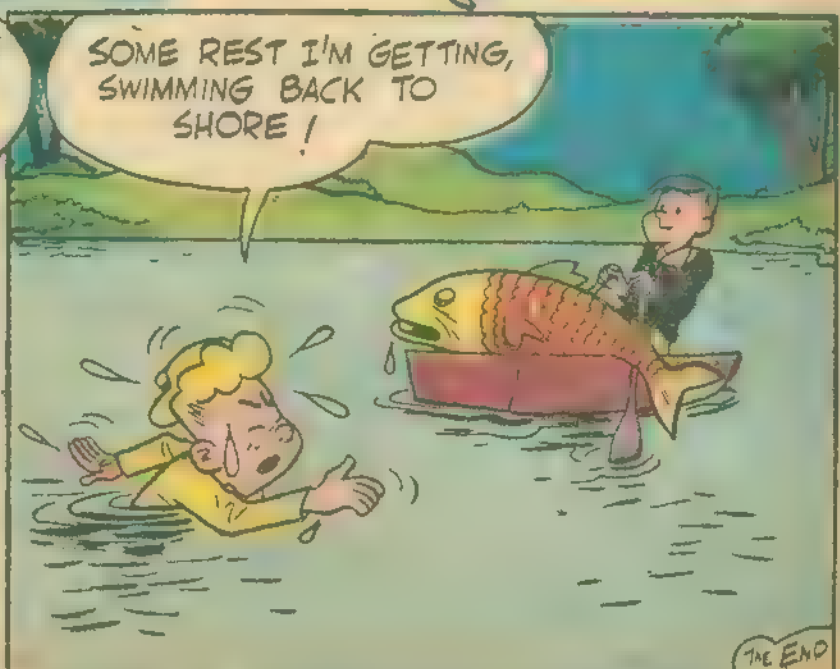
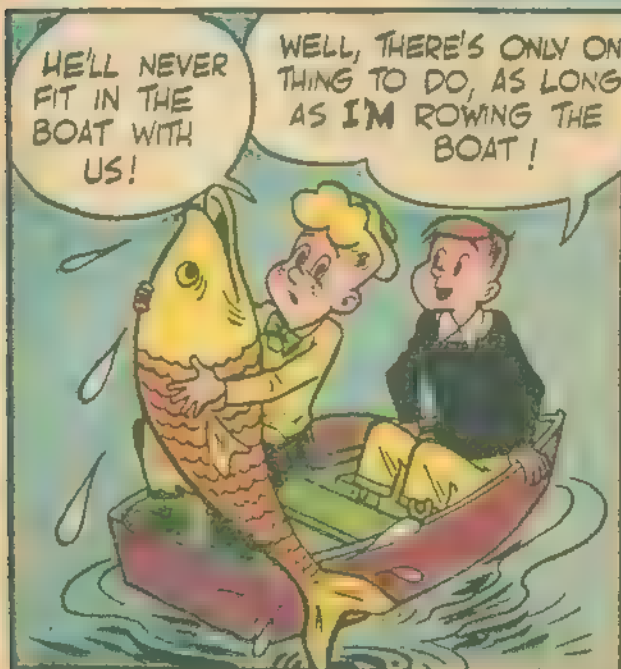
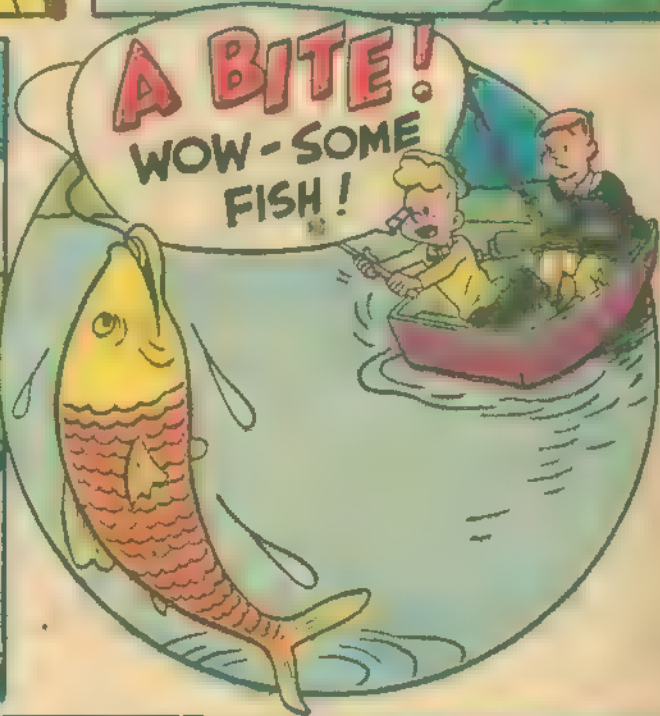
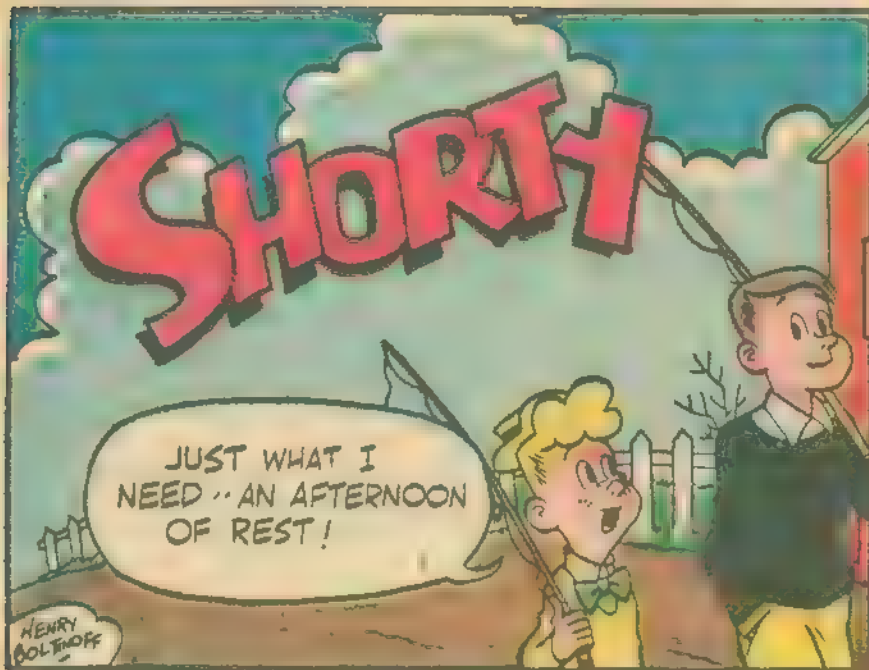
THEN SHORTY GLANCES INTO A MIRROR, AND...

I C-C-C-OULD— ULP!









CAN YOU FIND THE

7

HIDDEN
FEATURES?

20 Reasons Why

Everyone Wants the New

MONARK

Super Deluxe

Find the Seven Hidden Features in the twenty features listed at right. Send your entry on the coupon below and win the official Monark "Air-Wing" lapel button that will make you the envy of your crowd. Don't wait! Do it Now! It's fun . . . and takes only a few minutes.

- ★ New "Air-Wing" Head Shield and gracefully curved handlebars
- ★ New Sponge Rubber Padded Saddle, weather-resistant plastic-type cover.
- ★ New Heavy Duty Luggage Carrier with chrome plated auto style grille
- ★ New Electronic High Frequency Brazing used in welding major joints.
- ★ New "Kromegard" Rear Bumper and shock proof rear reflector
- ★ New Whitewall U. S. Royal chain-tread double tube balloon tires.
- ★ New Mar Proof and Chip Resistant triple baked enamel finish
- ★ Reinforced Cross Bars at Frame Head for maximum strength, precision
- ★ Shock Absorbing Double-Spring Cushion Front Fork for smooth riding.
- ★ Triple Plate Crown Tubular Fork with steel insert for added strength.
- ★ New Air Style Design Headlight with brilliant "road focus" beam.
- ★ Arch-Design "Motor-Bike" frame, built-in auto type tank and horn.
- ★ Airline Style Pedal Crank and Drive Assembly, precision chain sprockets.
- ★ Reinforced Steel Tubing provides double-strong crank hanger joints.
- ★ Full Size Double Width Rear Fork Bar and convenient "kick-up" stand.
- ★ Drop-out Fork Acorn style Cap Nuts and latest style coaster brake.
- ★ Extra Long Extra Deep Heavy-Gauge Auto Style Fenders and chain guard.
- ★ Super Streamlined Air-Flow Design accentuates its sleek, speedy lines.
- ★ Striking New Color Combinations in glistening "porcelain like" finishes.
- ★ Exclusive Monark Insurance Plan protects against loss by fire or theft.



Distinctive red, black and silver effect a 1 inch replica of the smart new "Air Wing" head shield on the new Monark bikes. A beauty that quickly clamps on coat, shirt or sweater

EVERY CONTESTANT RECEIVES
COLORFUL NEW BROADSIDE

You don't have to win to get this attractive broadside illustrating and describing the complete new Monark line in full color



MONARK *Super Deluxe*

6501 West Grand Avenue, Chicago 35, Illinois

MAIL COUPON TODAY..

MONARK SILVER KING, INC., 6501 W. Grand Ave., Chicago 35, Ill.

THE SEVEN HIDDEN MONARK FEATURES ARE:

(Identify your selections below by numbers shown in stars above)

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------

Send complete broadside 8-54 whether or not I win "Air-Wing" lapel button

NAME

ADDRESS

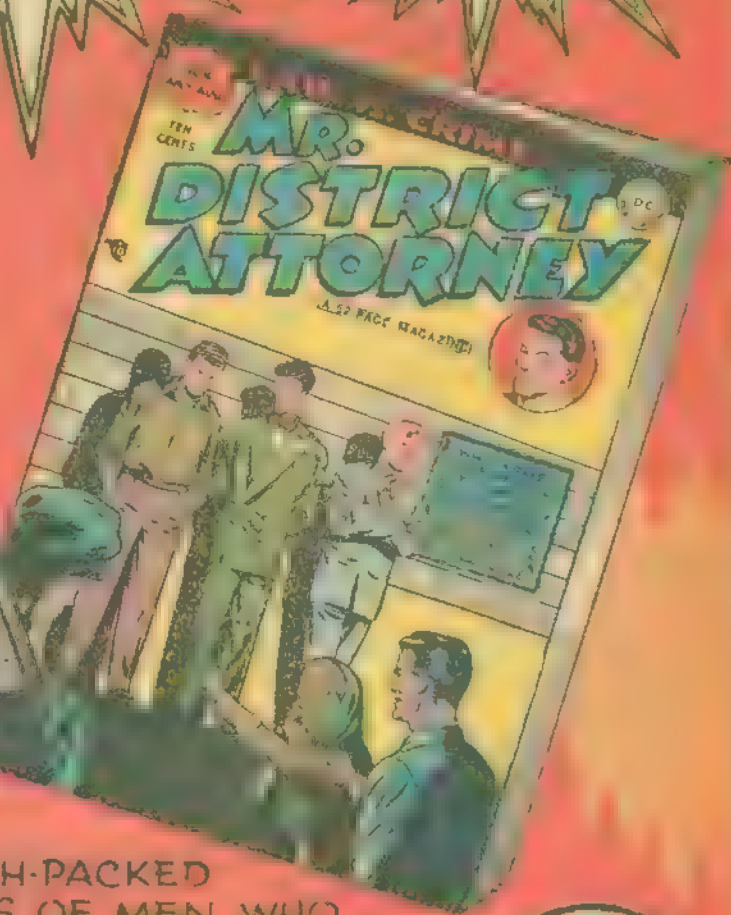
CITY STATE

Everything YOU WANT IN A MAGAZINE!

DRAMA!

EXCITEMENT!

ACTION!



THE PUNCH-PACKED
CASE-HISTORIES OF MEN WHO
TRIED TO BEAT THE LAW—AND
OF THE LAWYERS WHO BEAT
THEM TO THE FINAL DRAW.



**TOPS IN RADIO!
Now TOPS IN COMICS!**

SECRET CODES CAN BE FUN!

By HENRY LYSING

Author of "Secret Writing: How to Code and Decode,"
"The Cryptogram Book," etc.

The Tic-Tac-Toe Code

THERE are many ways to make secret codes and ciphers. Some of these ways are quite complicated, but that doesn't make them good codes. The simpler ones are often just as effective, and they are certainly much more fun.

For example, the Tic-Tac-Toe game that we have all played so often, can be the basis of a very clever code you can use with your friends.

Make the double-cross form for a Tic-Tac-Toe game and fill in the letters of the alphabet for each square. We need more squares, so we repeat—but this time put a dot by each letter. Then make two more simple designs—diagonally-crossed lines this time—again with dots in the second set. This gives 26 squares for the alphabet, as follows:



But how do we use this as a code? Well, look at the sentence below, and then check it with the master code above:

COFO RV JQ S > J > L > S
M > C > R > J > J
> M > R > L > C > F

And now you see that the message reads:
"Here is an example of the Tic Tac Toe ci-

pher." We skip hyphens and all other punctuation marks that might give the words away.

Incidentally, you can make several variations of this code by using the same basic idea and shifting the letters of the alphabet to other positions. But to avoid confusion when sending messages, be sure to let your friend know, with some secret symbol, exactly which code variation is being used.

An American War Code

There are many interesting stories about the use of codes in war times. During the first World War the Germans were baffling the Allies by breaking our codes too easily. Then the Americans thought up a clever idea and got different Yanks who could speak other languages to pass orders along to others who could understand them. This puzzled the Germans for a while, but they soon spotted the linguists with each division, and that ended that code.

But the Yanks got a better idea. They organized a group of Choctaw Indians, and began to use their language to send secret messages. The Germans could not understand the Choctaw tongue, and everything looked fine.

But the use of Indians was far from perfect. The Choctaws did not have words for tanks, airplanes, howitzers, or other instruments for modern warfare. Then, too, some of the Indians used dialects that others did not understand at all.

That is the trouble with a lot of good codes. They're so good that sometimes the person who receives them is unable to decipher them!

The Rail Fence Cipher

One of the most simple and effective codes ever used was invented during the American Civil War. It requires no charts, no special arrangements, and no substitutions. It is called the Rail Fence Cipher, because when working it out before sending, it bears a resemblance to the old-fashioned rail fence. When putting a message into this code, you use two lines, writing every other letter on alternate lines. In other words, the first letter on the top line, the second on the bottom, and so on. As illustration, the sentence: "Here is an example of the Rail Fence Cipher," would look like this:

H r i a e a p e f h r i f n e i h r
e e s n x m l o t e a l e c c p e

The message is read up and down, from left to right. When sending it, however, first run the lines together, alternating four letters from the top line with four letters from the bottom. The message would then look like this:

Hria eesn eape xmlo fhri teal fnei eccp hr e.

See how simple this is? You can jot down messages without anyone knowing what you are writing. But the best feature of the code is that the friend to whom you are sending it will be able to decode it quickly and without fear of making a mistake!

Secret Inks

But how would you like a method of sending secret messages that do not look like code?

You can make invisible inks right in your own kitchen, and all you need is milk or the juice from an orange, lemon, or grapefruit!

Remember, in writing messages with invisible ink you should always have an open and very unsuspecting message in regular ink, with your secret writing between the lines. A blank sheet of paper would just shout for close examination and tests for secret ink.

Invisible writing with any of the things mentioned above can be made visible with the application of heat. Hold the paper above a light bulb or run a hot iron over it, and the letters will show up.

You can also make invisible writing with the styptic pencil your father uses after shaving, but immerse the point in water first. Don't put it in your mouth; the styptic pencil contains alum, and it is not pleasant to taste.

The use of glue requires still a different technique. To bring out the message you must first heat the paper, and then sprinkle colored dust or powder over it. The powder adheres to the glue, which is moistened to stickiness by the heat, and when you shake off the rest, the message is easy to read.

In writing secret messages always be sure to use a clean steel pen or a sharp toothpick. Don't make scratches that can be seen and suspected. A little practice will help you to do it just right.

(In next month's issue of *Detective Comics*, we'll tell you more about secret inks and other clever ways of writing secret messages, including the Diary Code, the Magic Square Code, and the Mind Reader's Code. Don't miss this exciting feature!)

The

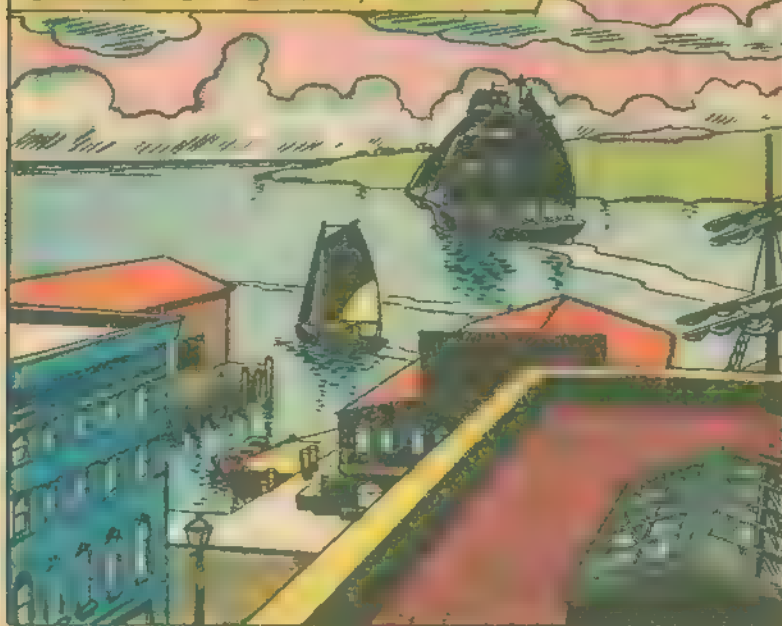
BOY COMMANDOS

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE CREW OF THE FAMED *MARY CELESTE*—A BOAT THAT LEFT NEW YORK HARBOR IN 1872, NEVER TO REACH ITS DESTINATION? THAT UNSOLVED RIDDLE IS THE MOST BAFFLING IN MARITIME HISTORY! AND NOW, A SECOND VESSEL SETS OUT TO RETRACE THE EXACT COURSE OF MYSTERIOUS AND FANTASTIC ADVENTURE—ONLY THIS TIME IT IS THE **BOY COMMANDOS** WHO ARE FLUNG DEEP IN INTRIGUE AND PERIL AS THEY SEEK TO UNRAVEL THE STRANGE EVENTS WHICH OCCUR ON...

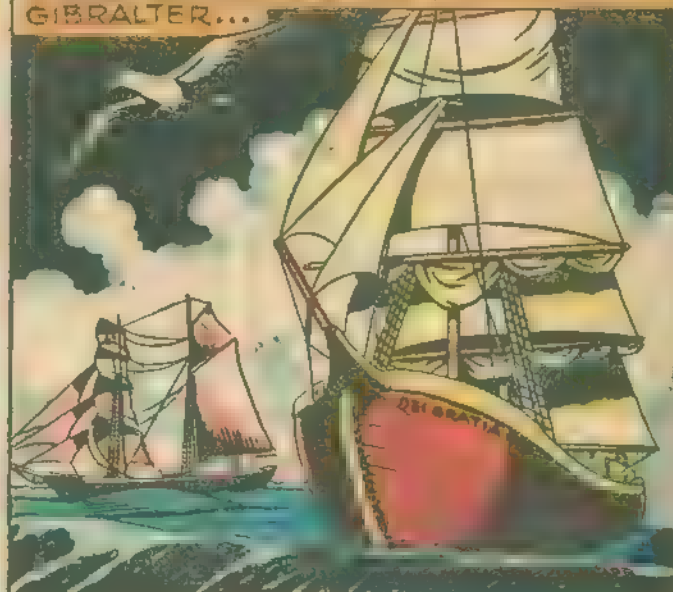
"THE MYSTERY OF THE *MARY CELESTE II*!"



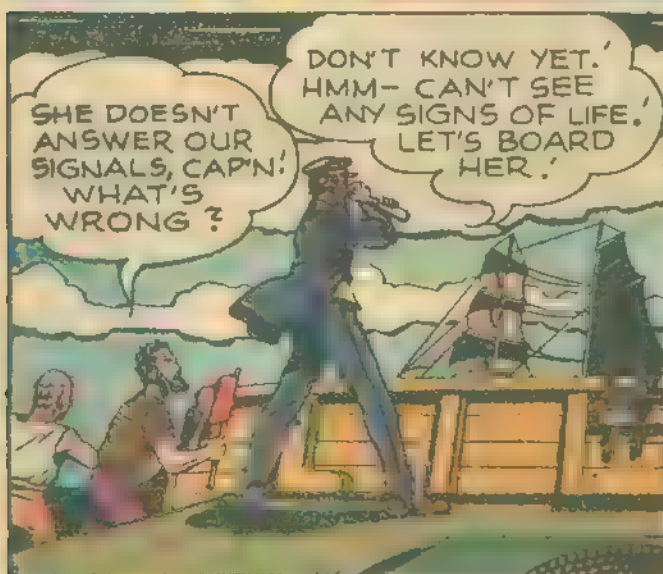
THIS STORY ACTUALLY BEGAN 75 YEARS AGO, WHEN A SMALL SAILING VESSEL CALLED THE *MARY CELESTE* LEFT NEW YORK HARBOR, BOUND FOR GENOA, ITALY...



WEEKS LATER, A BARQUE SIGHTED THE SMALL BRIGANTINE OFF THE COAST OF GIBRALTAR...



AS THE APPROACHING CREW NEARED THE VESSEL...

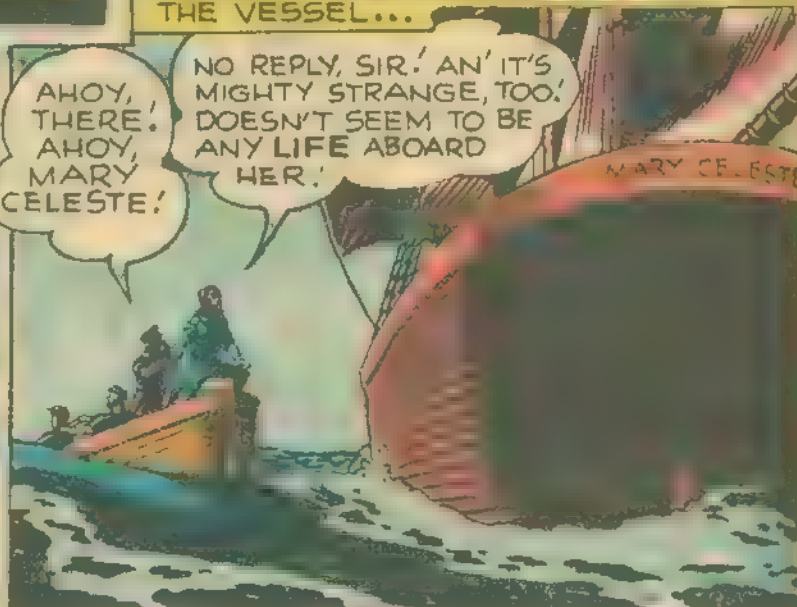


SHE DOESN'T ANSWER OUR SIGNALS, CAP'N! WHAT'S WRONG?

DON'T KNOW YET. HMM- CAN'T SEE ANY SIGNS OF LIFE. LET'S BOARD HER.

AHOY, THERE! AHOY, MARY CELESTE!

NO REPLY, SIR. AN' IT'S MIGHTY STRANGE, TOO! DOESN'T SEEM TO BE ANY LIFE ABOARD HER.



THEN, WHEN THE MEN OF THE *DEI GRATIA* BOARDED THE *MARY CELESTE*...

THERE'S NOT A HUMAN BEING ON BOARD, SIR! WE'VE SEARCHED HER UP AND DOWN!

WHAT! LET'S LOOK AGAIN!

NOT A CLUE TO THE DISAPPEARANCE OF CREW AND PASSENGERS COULD BE FOUND. AND IN THE SHIP'S MESS...

LOOK! THEY MUST HAVE JUST BEEN SITTING DOWN TO EAT WHEN WHATEVER IT WAS HAPPENED!

AND IT MUST HAVE BEEN MINUTES AGO - THE FOOD AND COFFEE'S STILL HOT!



A SHIP, RIDING UNDER FULL SAIL, IN PERFECT CONDITION! NO HINT OF MUTINY OR PIRACY, OR FIRE OR DISEASE! NOT EVEN A SIGN THAT SHE'S BEEN THROUGH ROUGH WEATHER!

...THE LIFEBOATS HAVEN'T BEEN TOUCHED, AND NOT A HUMAN BEING IS ON SHIP! THEY'VE ALL SIMPLY VANISHED!

IT'S THE STRANGEST CASE I'VE EVER COME ACROSS!

AND THUS THE FATE OF THE *MARY CELESTE*'S CREW REMAINED AN ENIGMATIC RIDDLE FOR ALMOST A CENTURY. AND NOW, 75 YEARS LATER...

YES, ON THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE *MARY CELESTE* MYSTERY, I PROPOSE TO TAKE A SCIENTIFIC EXPEDITION OVER THE EXACT COURSE TO TRY TO SOLVE THE RIDDLE!

GOOD LUCK
MARY CELESTE II

EVERYTHING IS PRECISELY THE WAY IT WAS ON THE FIRST *MARY CELESTE*. WE'RE EVEN DRESSED THE SAME. THE CARGO IS THE SAME--AND I'LL CARRY THE SAME CREW... FIVE MEN!

ASTOUNDING, PROFESSOR!

WE HAVE AN EXACTLY SIMILAR MAP AND COMPASS. IN SHORT, GENTLEMEN, THIS IS A REPEAT PERFORMANCE OF THE SAILING OF THE FIRST *MARY CELESTE*!

LET ME TAKE A PICTURE OF THAT STUFF, PROFESSOR!

THEN, WHILE RADIO ANNOUNCERS TELL THE WORLD OF THE BIZARRE EVENT, AND NEWSREEL CAMERAS GRIND AWAY, THE *MARY CELESTE II* SETS SAIL IN THE PATH OF HER LONG-AGO NAMESAKE...

THERE THEY GO! MAYBE THAT'S THE LAST WE'LL SEE OF 'EM!



WHILE ON BOARD...

BYE-BYE—WISH US LUCK!

THE SMALL VESSEL VANISHES INTO THE MISTS OF THE OPEN SEA. THEN, MANY DAYS LATER, THE BOY COMMANDOS WIND UP A BRIEF WHALING TRIP...

SHIP AHOY ON THE STARBOARD!

HMM—IT'S THE *MARY CELESTE II*—THE ONE WHICH GOT SO MUCH PUBLICITY WEEKS AGO!

MEBBE DAT BOAT'S FROM BROOKLYN, RIP! FLAG A HELLO FOR ME!

SHE DOESN'T ANSWER MY FLAG SIGNALS!

GREAT CAESAR! IT LOOKS AS THOUGH THERE'S NO ONE ON HER! LOWER A LIFEBOAT!



AND, AS THOUGH HISTORY REPEATS A GRIM JEST, THE COMMANDOS CLIMB ABOARD THE LONELY VESSEL TO FIND...

HELLO!
HELLO! ANYBODY
ABOARD THIS
SHIP?

NO ANSWER,
RIP! DIS IS A
GHOST TUB!

BRRR-
WHATTA
YA T'INK,
RIP?

A HURRIED INSPECTION OF THE SILENT CABINS REVEALS...

IT'S JUST LIKE THE CASE OF THE FIRST MARY CELESTE! EVERYTHING IS SHIP-SHAPE-YET NOT ONE HUMAN BEING ABOARD!

THE CARGO IS INTACT! THE LIFE-BOATS HAVEN'T BEEN MOVED! NO SIGN OF MUTINY, FIRE OR VIOLENCE! THE FOOD AND WATER ARE STILL FRESH! AND-TAKE A LOOK AT THIS!...

THE TABLE IS SET
FOR A MEAL-WHICH
WAS NEVER FINISHED!
AND THIS COFFEE IS
STILL WARM!

THEN THEY AINT
BEEN GONE
LONG!

RIP SENDS BROOKLYN SCURRYING UP TO THE CROW'S NEST...

THIS SHIP HAD
LIFE ON IT NOT MORE
THAN TEN MINUTES
AGO! QUICK, BROOKLYN!
CHECK THE HORIZON
FOR SIGNS OF A
BOAT OR SWIMMING
FIGURES!

WAIT'LL I GET
ME OLE EAGLE
EYE GLUED ON
DIS GLASS!

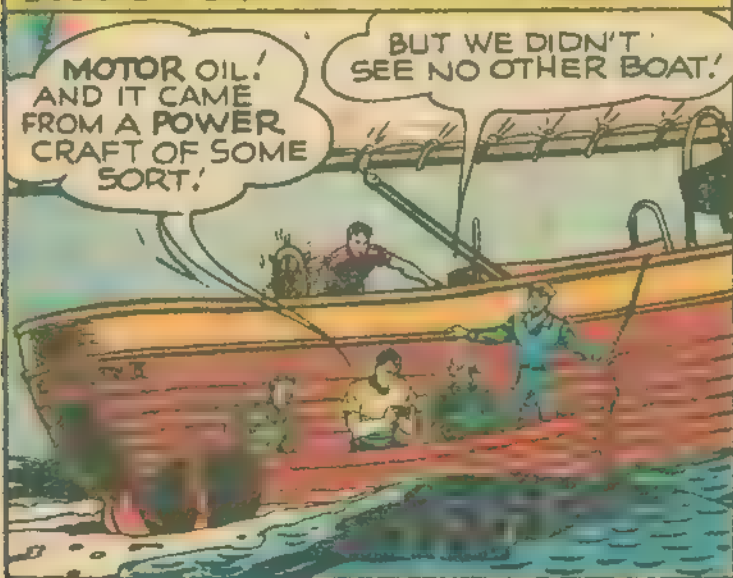
FROM HIS LOFTY PERCH,
BROOKLYN SEES NO LIVING
THING-ONLY A CURIOUS
SPOT THAT SHIMMERS IN
THE SUNLIGHT...

NOTHIN' OUT DERE,
RIP- 'CEPTIN' A BIG
PATCH OF OIL! STEER
OVER TO IT!

RIP STEERS NEAR THE DARK PATCH AND SCOOPS A SAMPLE FROM THE WAVES...

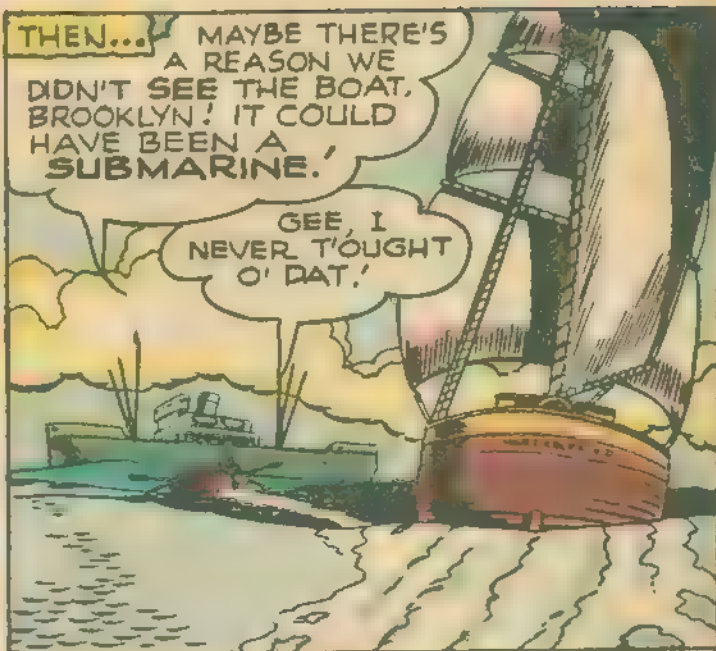
MOTOR OIL!
AND IT CAME
FROM A POWER
CRAFT OF SOME
SORT!

BUT WE DIDN'T
SEE NO OTHER BOAT!



THEN... MAYBE THERE'S
A REASON WE
DIDN'T SEE THE BOAT,
BROOKLYN! IT COULD
HAVE BEEN A
SUBMARINE.

GEE, I
NEVER T'HOUGHT
O' DAT!



MOMENTS LATER, ON THE WHALER...

AND NOW
WE'LL USE IT
TO TRACK DOWN
A SUB! STEADY,
MEN!

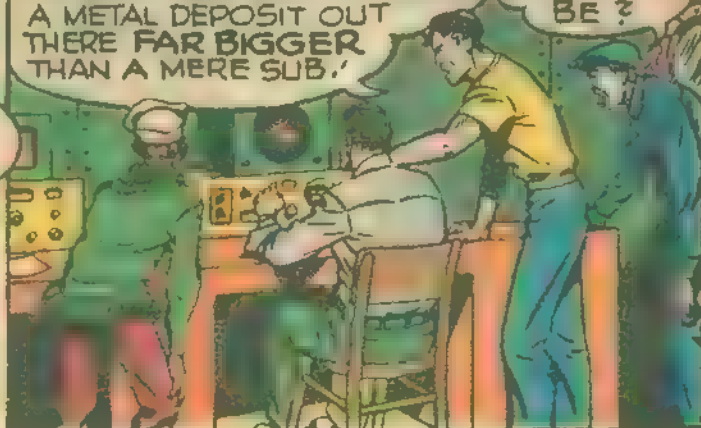
WE
BOUGHT
THIS RADAR
SET TO USE
FOR SAILIN'
THROUGH
FOGS!

AN ISLAND,
PERHAPS, AN
UNCHARTED ISLAND
WITH METAL DEPOSITS
IN THE ROCK! THAT'S
WHAT THE RADAR PICKED
UP! CALL THE BOYS—
WE'RE GOING FOR
A CRUISE ON
THE MARY,
CELESTE II.

THERE ARE TENSE, DRAMATIC MOMENTS IN
THE CONTROL ROOM AS RIP WATCHES THE
RADAR SCREEN, THEN...

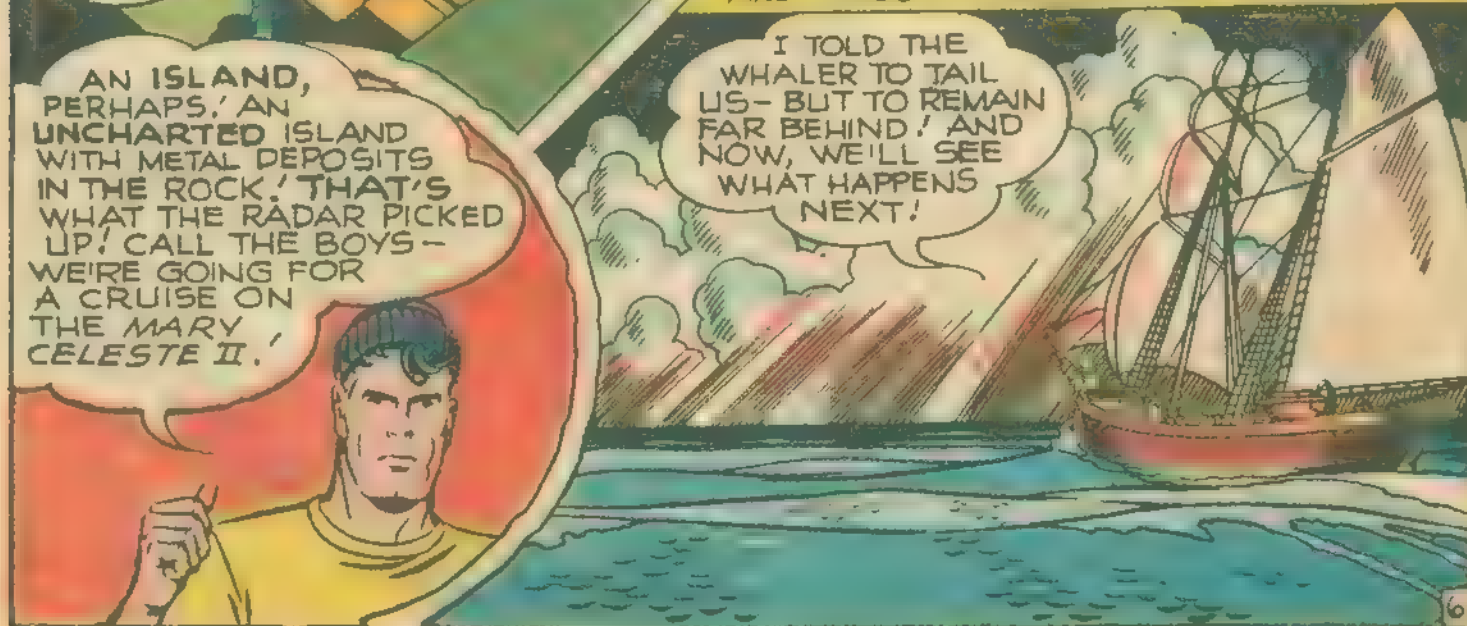
GREAT GUNS! LOOK AT THAT
IMPULSE REACTION! THERE'S
A METAL DEPOSIT OUT
THERE FAR BIGGER
THAN A MERE SUB!

YEAH?
WHAT
COULD IT
BE?



AND SO, DURING THE UNKNOWN, RIP'S
LITTLE BAND TURNS THE CELESTE ABOUT
AND HEADS FOR THE MYSTERY ISLAND...

I TOLD THE
WHALER TO TAIL
US— BUT TO REMAIN
FAR BEHIND! AND
NOW, WE'LL SEE
WHAT HAPPENS
NEXT!



LATER, THEY SAIL INTO A MISTY REALM, FINALLY LOSING THEMSELVES AMONG TREACHEROUS REEFS.

RIP! LOOKIT ALL DA JAGGED ROCKS! WE MIGHT CRACK UP!

NO ONE HAS EVER CHARTED THIS PLACE! I CAN'T FIND IT ON THE MAP!



PEERING THROUGH POWERFUL GLASSES, R.P. SPIES A FOG-CLOAKED ISLAND SOME TEN KNOTS AWAY...



WE'VE HIT HOME, BOYS. THERE IS A LARGE ISLAND OFF THERE! AND IT MAY HOLD THE SECRET OF THE MARY CELESTE!

BUT ON THE ISLAND, OTHER EYES HAVE SEEN THE TINY CRAFT...



SOMEONE'S SNOOPIN' AROUND OUT THERE! GIVE 'EM A COUPLE ON THE BROAD-SIDE!

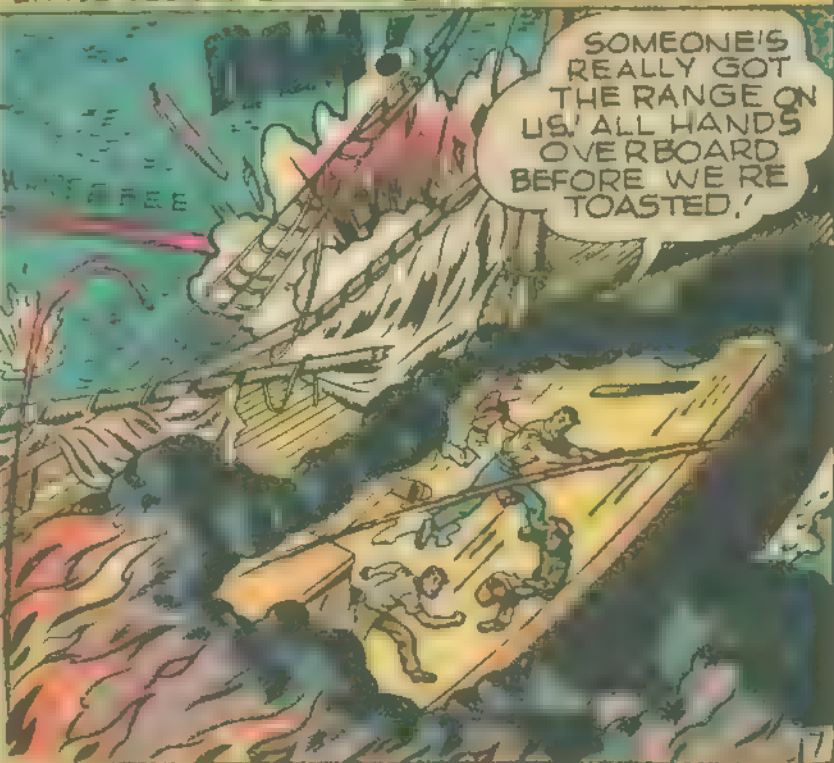
CHECK-BIG BERTHA WILL SINK 'EM, BUT FAST!

A THUNDERING BLAST, AND THE MASTS OF THE MARY CELESTE II CRUMPLE LIKE MATCHSTICKS...

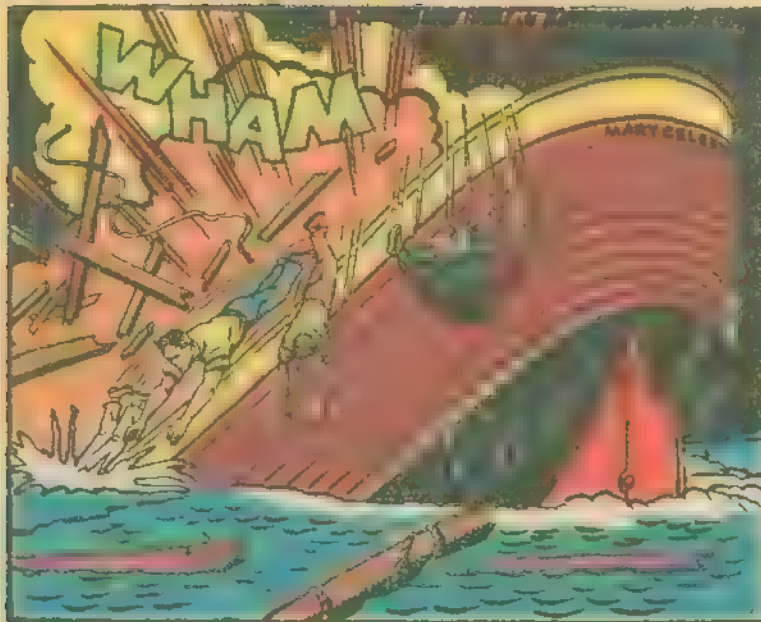


HIT THE DECK! THE WHOLE SKY'S CAVING IN!

ANOTHER SHOT-AND ANOTHER, AND THE VALIANT LITTLE VESSEL BREAKS OUT INTO FLAMES...

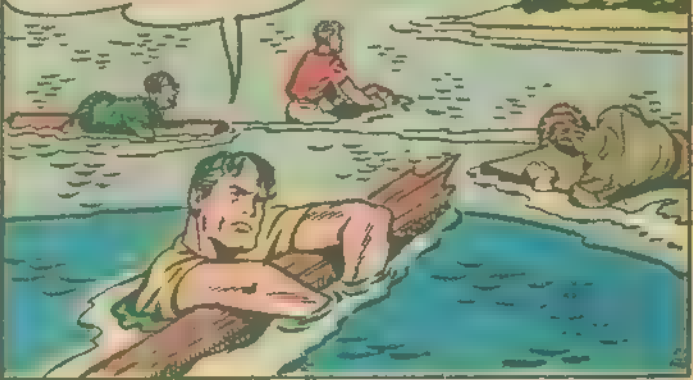


SOMEONE'S REALLY GOT THE RANGE ON US! ALL HANDS OVERBOARD BEFORE WE'RE TOASTED!



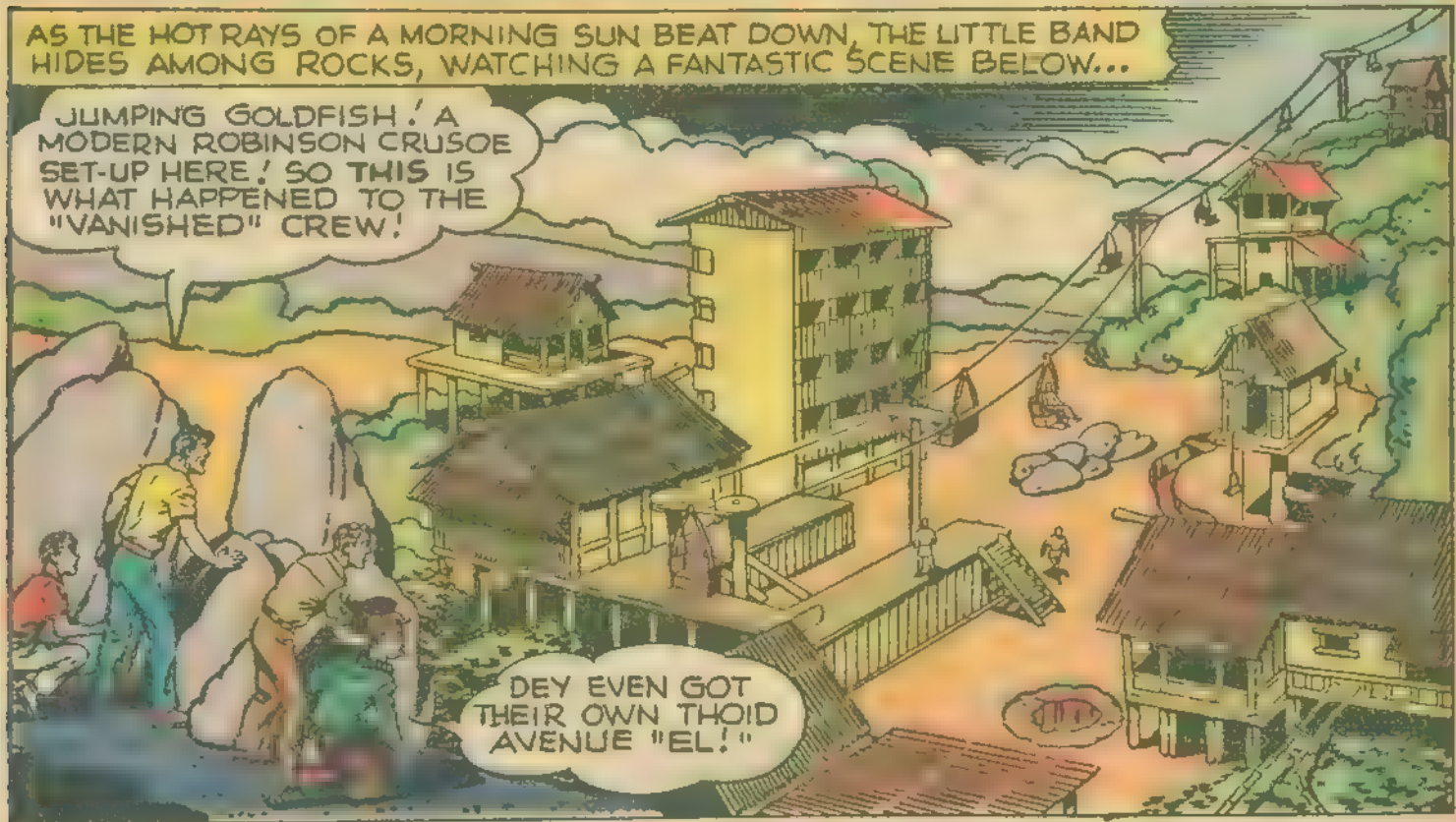
ALL THROUGH THE LONG NIGHT, THE SURVIVORS CLING DESPERATELY TO FLOATING DEBRIS. FINALLY...

DAWN'S BREAKING! BEFORE IT GETS COMPLETELY LIGHT, WE'LL PADDLE TO THE FAR END OF THE ISLAND AND ESTABLISH A BEACH-HEAD.



AS THE HOT RAYS OF A MORNING SUN BEAT DOWN, THE LITTLE BAND HIDES AMONG ROCKS, WATCHING A FANTASTIC SCENE BELOW...

JUMPING GOLDFISH! A MODERN ROBINSON CRUSOE SET-UP HERE! SO THIS IS WHAT HAPPENED TO THE "VANISHED" CREW!

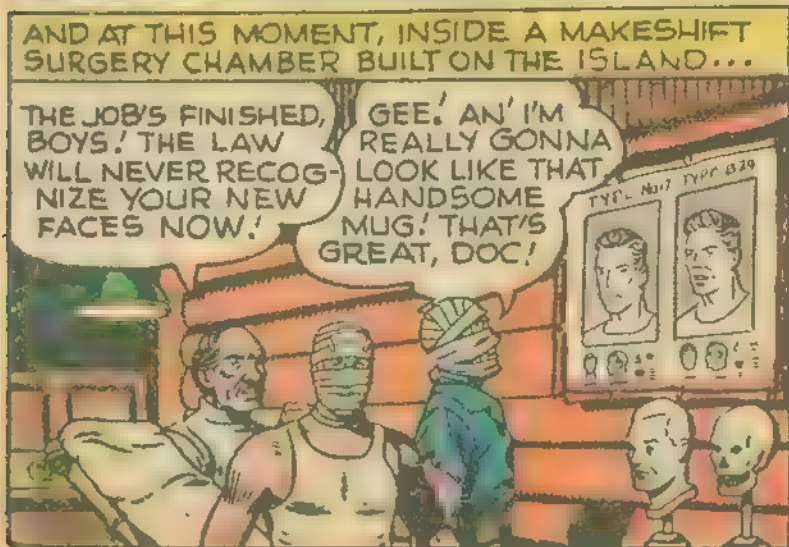


DEY EVEN GOT THEIR OWN THOID AVENUE "EL!"

AND AT THIS MOMENT, INSIDE A MAKESHIFT SURGERY CHAMBER BUILT ON THE ISLAND...

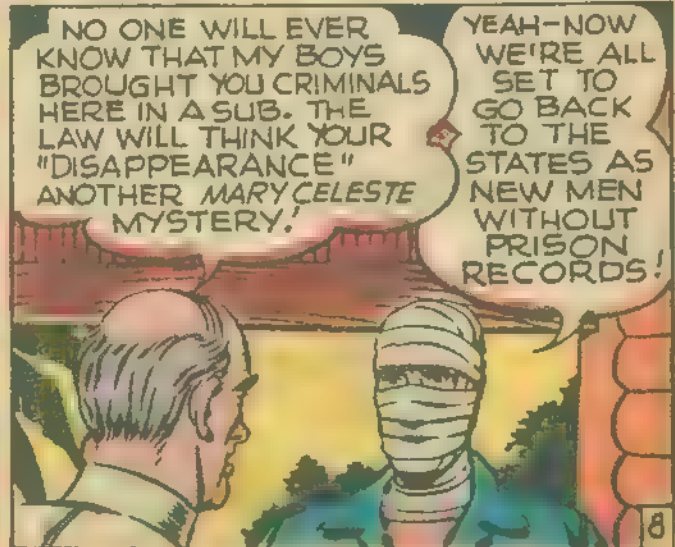
THE JOB'S FINISHED, BOYS! THE LAW WILL NEVER RECOGNIZE YOUR NEW FACES NOW!

GEE! AN' I'M REALLY GONNA LOOK LIKE THAT HANDSOME MUG! THAT'S GREAT, DOC!



NO ONE WILL EVER KNOW THAT MY BOYS BROUGHT YOU CRIMINALS HERE IN A SUB. THE LAW WILL THINK YOUR "DISAPPEARANCE" ANOTHER MARYCELESTE MYSTERY!

YEAH-NOW WE'RE ALL SET TO GO BACK TO THE STATES AS NEW MEN WITHOUT PRISON RECORDS!



ON THE ISLAND, THE CROOKS GLOAT OVER THEIR IMPROVISED COMFORTS...

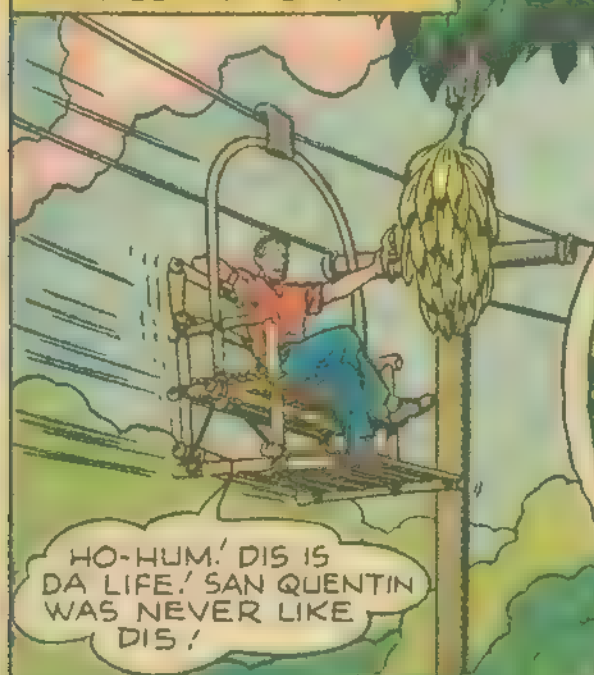
WHAT A SET-UP! WE'VE GOT EVEN A **TOIKISH BATH!**

YEAH, I AIN'T IN NO HURRY TO GET HOME—NEW FACE OR NOT.

THERE ARE 'ELEVATORS' FOR THE 'APARTMENT' BUILDINGS...



AND A CABLE CAR FOR SWIFT TRANSPORTATION ACROSS THE ISLAND...



HO-HUM! DIS IS DA LIFE! SAN QUENTIN WAS NEVER LIKE DIS!

MEANWHILE...

I GET THE PITCH NOW! THE CREW OF THE *CELESTE II* WAS MADE UP OF NOTORIOUS CROOKS, WHO WANTED TO 'VANISH' FROM THE EARTH!

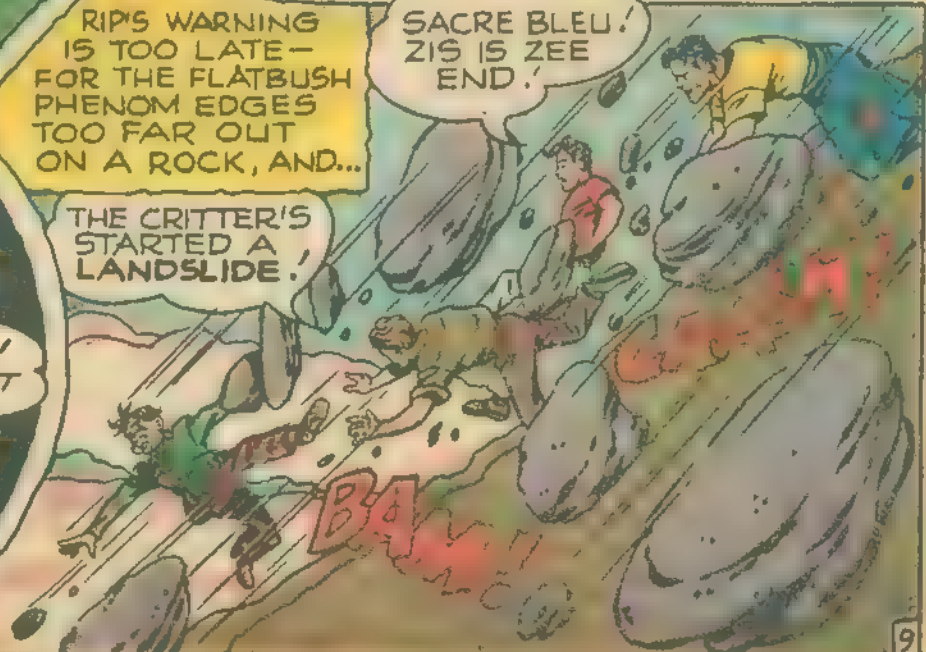
RIP'S WARNING IS TOO LATE—FOR THE FLATBUSH PHENOM EDGES TOO FAR OUT ON A ROCK, AND...

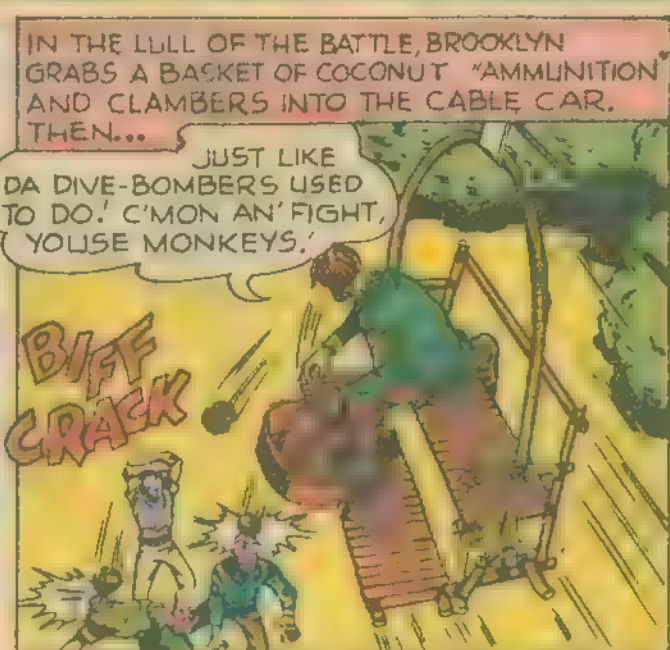
SACRE BLEU! ZIS IS ZEE END!

THE SUB TOOK THEM OFF THE SHIP, BROUGHT THEM HERE, WHERE THEY'RE HAVING THEIR FACES MADE OVER! THEN THEY'LL RETURN, AND—

THE CRITTER'S STARTED A LANDSLIDE!

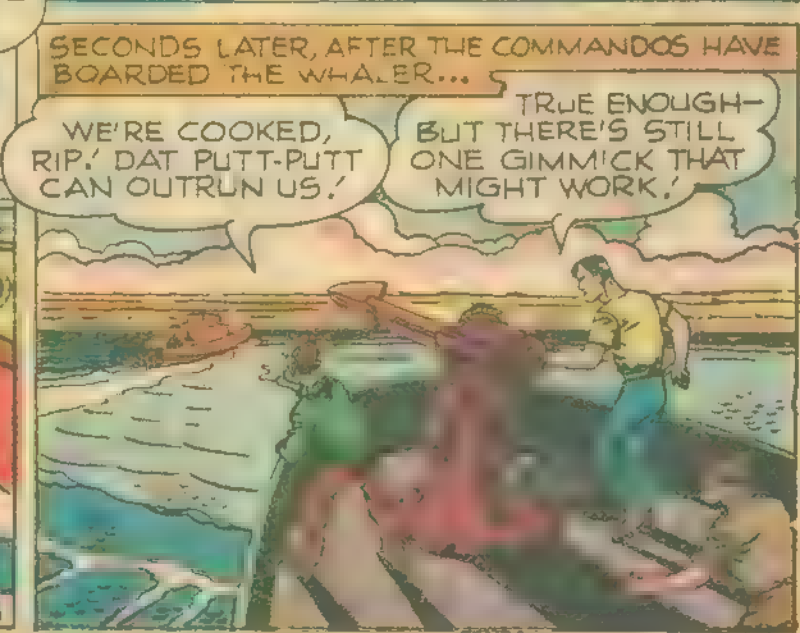
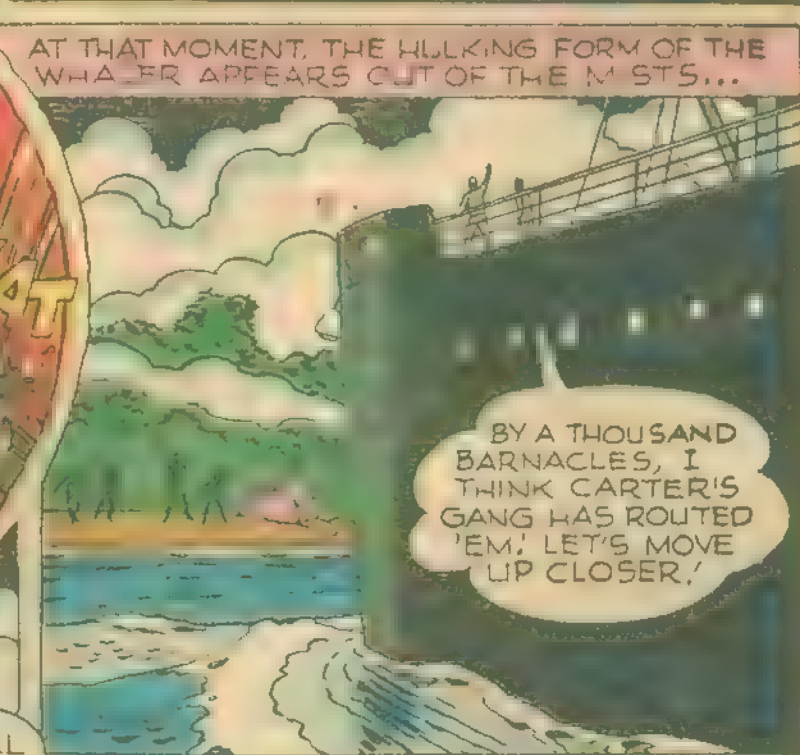
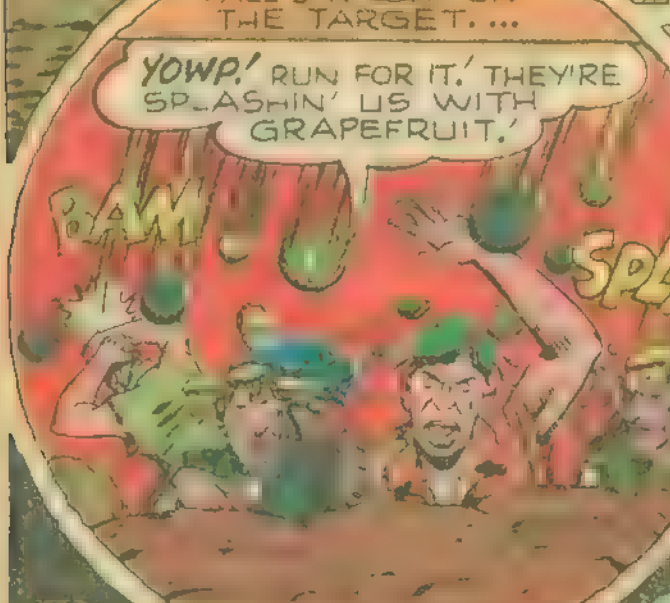
BROOKLYN! DON'T LEAN OUT SO FAR!





BUT CAPTAIN RIP CARTER HAS OTHER IDEAS...





AN ODD CRY RINGS OUT: "MAN THE HARPOON!"

I GOT DA BEAD ON 'EM, RIP! RIGHT SMACK ON DA NOSE!

OKAY—FIRE!

BR-R-R-RAM!

THE HARPOON STREAKS THROUGH THE AIR WITH BULLET-LIKE SPEED, SNAGGING THE BOW OF THE POWER LAUNCH...

LOOKIT! THEY CAUGHT US LIKE A FISH!

AND A UNIQUE "WHALE" IS TOWED BACK TO THE BIGGER CRAFT...

HA, HA! DA BEST CATCH WE'VE MADE IN WEEKS!

KEEP THOSE GUNS TRAINED ON THEM—JUST IN CASE THEY TRY ANY TRICKS!

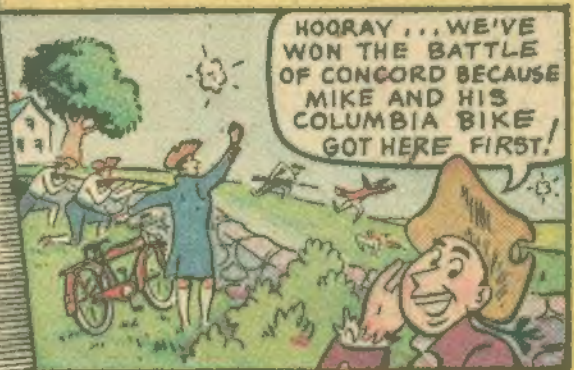
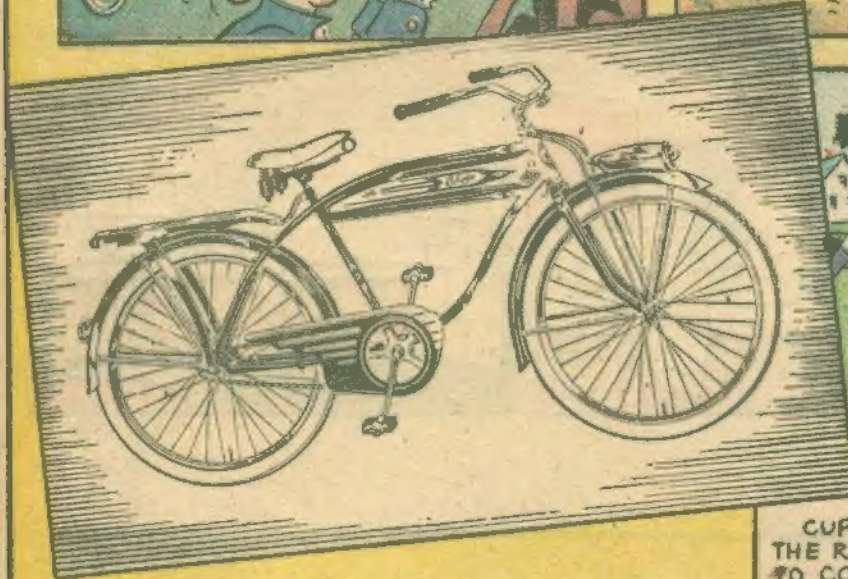
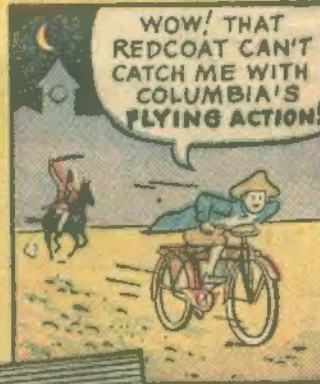
PUT THEM IN IRONS—THEY'RE GOING BACK TO THE AUTHORITIES! WE'VE SOLVED THE MYSTERY OF MARY CELESTE II!

AND SO THE RIDDLE OF THE **FIRST MARY CELESTE** REMAINS UNSOLVED! BUT WHO KNOWS? PERHAPS SOME DAY WE SHALL LEARN THE ANSWER! UNTIL THEN, IT WILL REMAIN THE GREATEST OF MARITIME MYSTERIES!



WHAT WOULD PAUL REVERE
HAVE BEEN LIKE IF HE'D
TAKEN HIS FAMOUS RIDE
... ON A BIKE?

DAYDREAM MIKE and his WONDERFUL BIKE!



YOU JUST CAN'T BEAT

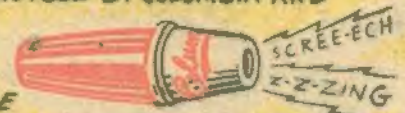
Columbia "FLYING ACTION!"

Bikes by Columbia have a combination of modern features you'll find on no other bikes. Swell new features on the 1948 models include a new crank hanger for easier pedaling — an exclusive Westfield patented built-in kick stand — a Columbia built-in lock — and silver alloy brazed frames for greatest precision and handsomest looks. All front wheel hubs are made from solid bars. Pedal shafts and front forks are extra-strength steel. Handle bar stems are one-piece drop forged. DuPont Dulux enamel finish. These and many other superior features make 1948 bicycles by Columbia as handsome as they are sturdy, as fine as you could own.

**Remember
FELLOWS AND GIRLS!**

A BIKE BY COLUMBIA IS NOT ONLY A HANDSOMER BIKE, BUT ALSO A BETTER BUILT BIKE... AND WHEN A BIKE IS BUILT BETTER IT LASTS LONGER... PEDALS EASIER... GOES FASTER... CLIMBS EASIER... AND GETS YOU THERE FRESHER THAN "POKEY" HARDER-TO-PUSH BIKES. MORAL: GET A BICYCLE BY COLUMBIA AND BE A LEADER!

SNAPPY RED & WHITE
PLASTIC...
MAKES A BIG NOISE



SEND FOR "BIKE CHIEF" SIREN AND BOOKLET NOW!

The Westfield Manufacturing Company
78 Cycle Street, Westfield, Massachusetts

Find enclosed fifteen cents (15c), for which please send me, post-paid, one "BIKE CHIEF" SIREN, and BOOKLET describing new, 1948 Columbia Bikes ☐. Please send free booklet only ☐.

Name _____

Address _____

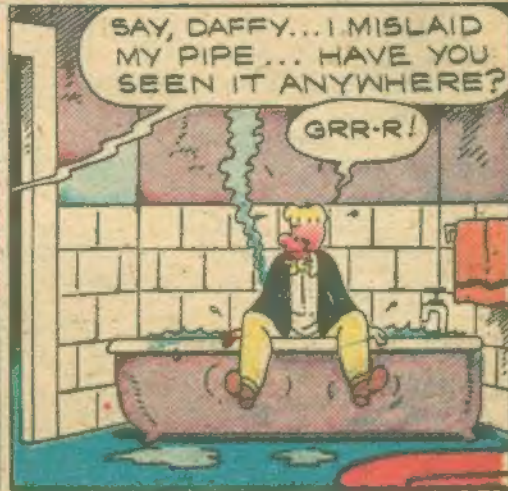
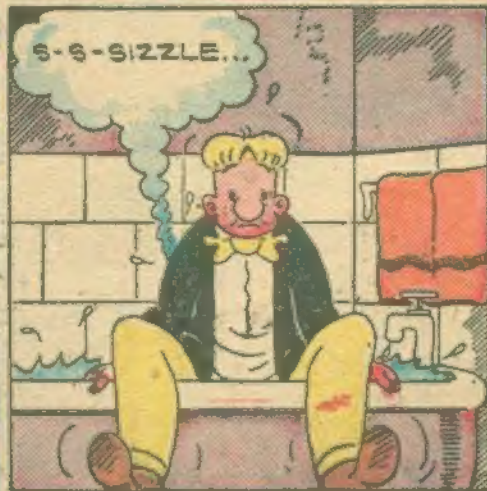
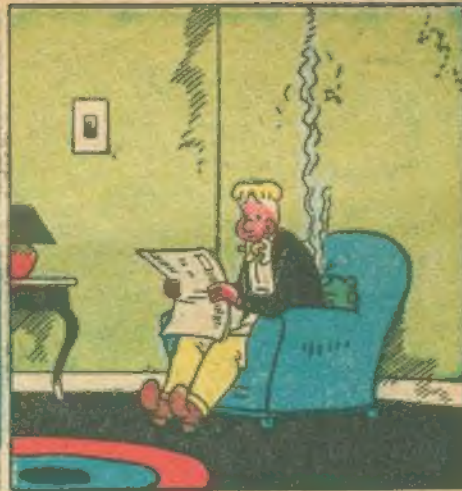


Columbia

SINCE 1877
AMERICA'S FIRST BICYCLE



DAFFY & DOODLE



Editorial Advisory Board

DR. LAURETTA BENDER
Associate Professor of Psychiatry
School of Medicine, New York University

JOSETTE FRANK
Consultant on Children's Reading,
Child Study Association of America

DR. C. BOWIE MILLICAN
Department of English Literature
New York University

Dr. W. W. D. SONES
Professor of Education and
Director of Curriculum Study,
University of Pittsburgh

Dr. S. HARCOURT PEPPARD
Acting Director, Bureau of Child Guidance
Board of Education, City of New York



The following magazines all bear this trademark as your guarantee of the best in comic reading:

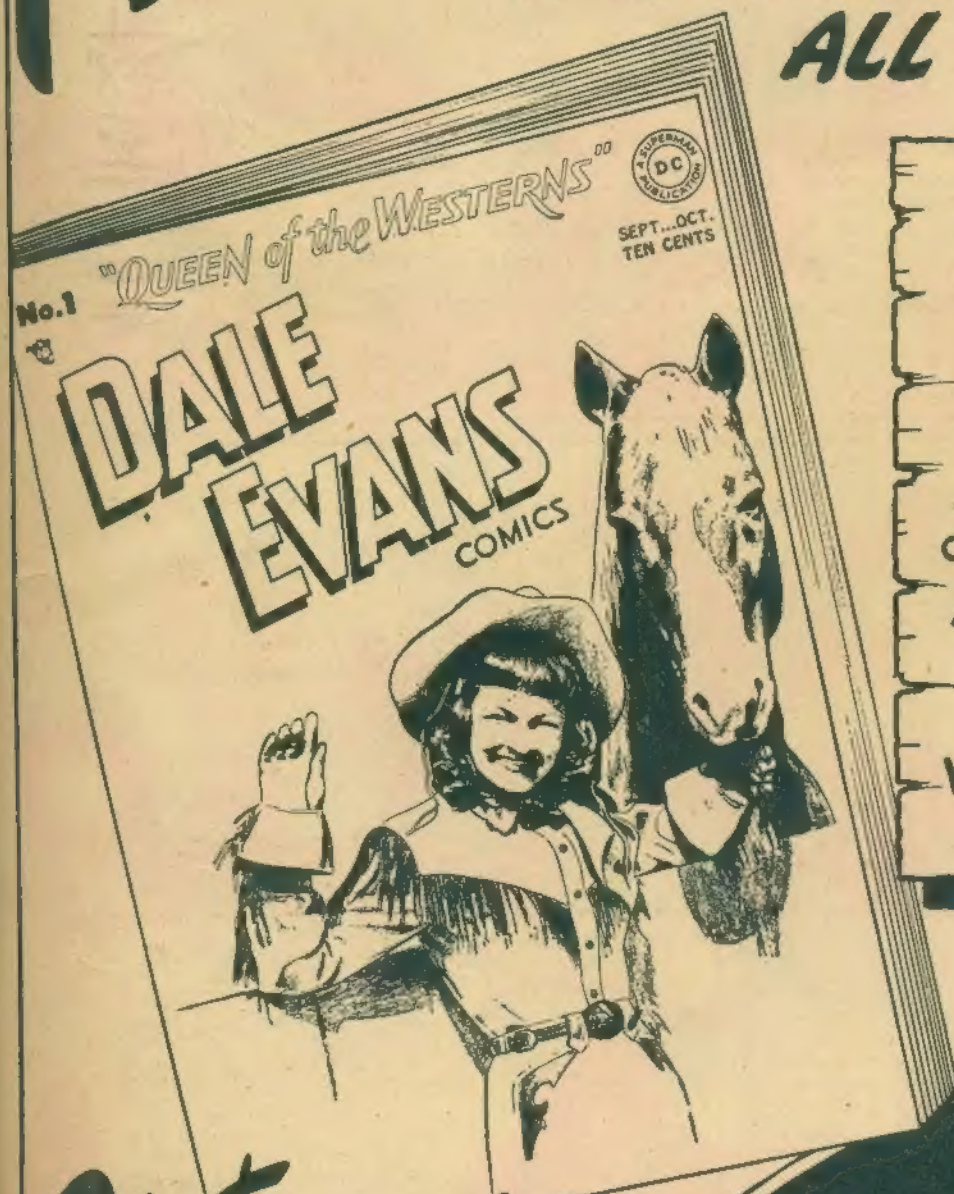
ACTION COMICS
A DATE WITH JUDY
ADVENTURE COMICS
ALL-AMERICAN COMICS
ALL-STAR COMICS
ANIMAL ANTICS
BATMAN
BOY COMMANDOS
BUZZY
COMIC CAVALCADE
DETECTIVE COMICS
FLASH COMICS
FUNNY FOLKS
FUNNY STUFF

GANG BUSTERS
GREEN LANTERN
LEADING COMICS
LEAVE IT TO BINKY
MR. DISTRICT ATTORNEY
MUTT & JEFF
REAL FACT COMICS
REAL SCREEN COMICS
SCRIBBLY
SENSATION COMICS
STAR SPANGLED COMICS
SUPERMAN
WESTERN COMICS
WONDER WOMAN
WORLD'S FINEST COMICS

Now!

HOLLYWOOD'S "QUEEN of the WESTERNS"

IN A COMIC BOOK
ALL HER OWN!



DON'T MISS THE
ROOTIN', TOOTIN',
SHOOTIN',
WILD WEST
ESCAPADES OF

*Dale
Evans*

THE REAL-LIFE
COWGIRL WHO MADE
MOVIE HISTORY
AS THE ONLY GIRL
EVER VOTED
AMONG THE
TOP TEN
WESTERN STARS!



*First
Issue!*

ON SALE
Everywhere!

ADVENTURES OF "R.C." and QUICKIE

DUEL IN THE SAND

C'MON, QUICKIE, WE CAN'T LET THAT BIG APE PUSH THAT OLD MAN AROUND!

GULP

BUT WAIT TILL I FINISH THIS ROYAL CROWN COLA

YOU LEAVE MY DAD ALONE!

SWAN... HE CAN'T TELL ME WHERE TO GET OFF JUST BECAUSE YOU SAID I ANNOYED YOU!

PARDON US, BUT YOU'D BETTER RUN ALONG AND LEAVE THESE PEOPLE ALONE, BUDDY

HUH? YOU GUYS WANNA BUTT IN?

GOLLY, THIS GUY IS A MOUNTAIN OF MUSCLE I HOPE HE LEAVES QUIET LIKE

C'MON, I'LL FIX BOTH OF YOU... BUT GOOD!

STAY OUTA THIS, QUICKIE!

I'D LIKE TO CLUNK THIS GUY WITH A BOTTLE OF ROYAL CROWN COLA, BUT IT'S TOO GOOD FOR HIM!

TAKE THAT! HA! HA!

OUCH! OH!

NOW I'LL POLISH YOU OFF, SONNY BOY!

THIS GUY'S IN FOR THE SURPRISE OF HIS LIFE!

"R.C." PRETENDS HE'S HURT, WAITING FOR A CHANCE TO USE THE JUDO HE LEARNED AS A G.I.

HAPPY LANDING!

WOOMP!

TWEET TWEET

ANOTHER ROUND OF ROYAL CROWN COLA COMING UP!

WE SURE ENJOYED THE LESSON YOU TAUGHT THAT BULLY

THANKS, MISS... I'M SURE ENJOYING THIS QUICK-UP WITH RC!

NATCH! IT'S THE ONLY COLA THAT'S BEST BY TASTE-TEST!

JOHN FLEISS

JOHNNY MACK BROWN SAYS:

PARD, IT'S A CINCH R C TASTES BEST!

"I tasted the leading colas," says Johnny Mack Brown, "and RC was best of all." Try delicious best-tasting Royal Crown Cola. You really get your money's worth with two full glasses in each bottle.

ROYAL CROWN COLA
Best by taste-test

See Johnny Mack Brown starring in Monogram's "FRONTIER AGENT"